



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 26, Number 11  
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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send submissions by the 26<sup>th</sup> to:

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November 2011

## 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. Carpool meeting place, MDC Research Center, is on College just north of Stadium.

**5 November Saturday: Workday at Stadium Blvd Site 9 am** We really need to pick up trash, remove some bush honeysuckle cut tall stems. If you have a weedeater or heavy lawnmower, please bring it so we can cut some of the tall vegetation [please clean old seed from mowers!!]. Bring clippers, loppers, gloves and an orange vest, maybe hearing protection. Yellow trash bags will be supplied. Call Becky for questions/discussion.

**12 November [date change] Saturday Wreath Workshop and Cookout** at Ann and Mike's. 10am to 2pm. See article inside for directions, page 3.

**14 November Monday Regular Membership Meeting 6:00pm** at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Sheppard Blvd. Note the time change due to change in Daylight Savings time back to Standard time. John George will speak about his work on Tucker Prairie and Prairie Fork Conservation Area. Both are very unique communities that combine history/diversity/volunteer service and education opportunity in central Missouri. He will cover management challenges and successes and the value of volunteer services in relation to them. During the business meeting Jody Frank from Edward Jones will explain investment options for our extra money.

**17 November Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts 11:30 RagTag, 10 Hitt St.** Just south of Broadway

**11 December Sunday: Holiday Party** at Vanessa and David's. Noon to 4 See Invitation inside.

**15 December Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts 11:30 RagTag, 10 Hitt St.** Just south of Broadway.

**9 January Monday: Regular Membership Meeting 6:00pm** at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Sheppard Blvd. Agenda: discussions on 2012 activities. Program: seed exchange.

**Call Vanessa or Paula for more information**

**Thanks to Ann Wakeman, Vanessa Melton-Silvey, Nancy Langworthy, Paula Peters, Kathleen Anderson for their contributions to the newsletter. Editor would like to hear from you, too.**

## The Upcoming Season and Events

*Submitted by Vanessa Melton-Silvey, President*

Fall has arrived and it is time to prep your garden for winter. Plant those last remaining natives you bought at the plant sale on the 8<sup>th</sup> (I am guilty too). Collect the seeds from your plants; save them for the seed exchange at the January Meeting and for propagation of plants for booth sales. And trim dead stalks and save the cuttings for the wreath-making workshop on the 12<sup>th</sup>. So much to do and so little time before the first snow.

We have several activities coming up this month and next. I mentioned the wreath-making workshop – that will be at Ann & Mike’s (see article inside for details and directions) on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The regular meeting will be at 6 pm on the 14<sup>th</sup> and John George from the Missouri Department of Conservation will be speaking on the restoration work being done at Prairie Fork Conservation Area. Don’t forget the Native Plant Society lunch on the 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am at the café by Rag Tag. In December we will once again be having the Holiday Party on the 11<sup>th</sup> at David and Vanessa’s (also see inside for details and directions).

It is also time once again to be thinking about upcoming elections and nominations for the Blazing Star award. Nominations are due to Nancy Langworthy by November 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Blazing Star award which will be given to the recipient at the Holiday Party. See her article here for more information.

Also, send your nominations for president and secretary to Nancy Langworthy or Paula Peters. We will be voting on those two offices at the January meeting, so get your officer nominations in before that meeting.

## Big Plant Sale

Tim Reinbott, Manager at MU’s Bradford Farm was gracious enough to let us use the new parking lot for one last plant sale Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup>. Becky brought one load of plants to the display area the evening before and brought a second load the next morning. John, Ann, Paula, Vanessa, Nancy, Laura, Nancy, Janet, Becky made the day a success. Activity was brisk nearly the whole time we were set up. Apparently the advertising and Lea’s spot on Farm and Fiddle [KOPN] paid off because we took in about \$630 in four hours. Tim invited us for a return effort next year.

## 2011 Call for Nominations

*Submitted by Nancy Langworthy, Vice President*

As the attendees to the July meeting this summer know, Hawthorn voted to introduce the Hawthorn Award.

“The Hawthorn Award is a new award intended to honor individuals or organizations which demonstrate excellent use of native plants in landscape planning, design and/or implementation or in some other way significantly assist our chapter in meeting its goals and purposes. The award is intended for those who are not affiliated with the Missouri Native Plant Society (MNPS) or the Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society (Hawthorn Chapter),”

Though there is no required season for making this award, the end of the year seems a good time for all of us to consider if there were any suitable nominees. Per the rules we adopted [published in the June 2011 newsletter available in the Chapter website archives], nominations with supporting documentation should be submitted to me, Nancy Langworthy. If the nomination comes to me before Thanksgiving, we might be able to actually make the award during our winter party (we’d also like to arrange some publicity for that event, so that date may not work).

Also, as a reminder: President Vanessa Melton-Silvey has called for nominations for our chapter’s Blazing Star Award which, of course, recognizes outstanding service to the goals and purposes of the chapter and to native plants by one of our own members. This isn’t an annual award but we do remind you that if there is someone you think deserves this award, our winter party is a great time to do it. So for this award as well, please send me a paragraph or two of nomination NO LATER THAN Thanksgiving.

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Paula and Becky help customers pick out plants while Janet helps a customer choose a book.

VM-S photo

## MDC Calendars Available

*Submitted by Paula Peters*

MDC Calendars are available at \$6 each; this is less than the price if purchased directly from MDC. Many people use them as 'thank you' holiday gifts to service people and neighbors.

**Paula wants to take orders by email or call her BEFORE 13 NOVEMBER.** The last time she can take orders at the 14 Nov meeting. She has several on hand to bring to the Nov meeting, too. She plans to order on 15 Nov. There will be NO extras since she has provided two weeks which is plenty of time to order from her. She can distribute orders at Nov and Dec lunches, the holiday party 12 Dec, and the Jan meeting, or from her home by appointment. Paula will not have your new orders in time for the wreath workshop on 12 Nov since they will be ordered on 15 Nov.

## Wreath Workshop

*Submitted by Ann Wakeman, host of workshop*

**November 12 [change of date]**, Ann Wakeman & Mike Rues will host a wreath making workshop and cookout at their home. You need to bring your own plant clippers, wreath base, craft/flower wire, and gluegun. Dried materials are available already collected. You may wish to collect your own from our place or bring stuff from your own garden. Cedar boughs are also available along the road to our place. You may bring a small salad or veggie, burgers, brats, chicken breast, or whatever you wish. Mike will grill them on his Dad's Hasty Bake grill. We'll likely be making wreaths indoors on our porch & garden room.

Directions from Columbia: Route WW (east Broadway), continue on Route J which turns into Route F toward Fulton. One mile past Route KK junction, turn right onto Windy Meadows Lane (just past overhead powerlines). On Windy Meadows, take first left turn. Then at second turn, go straight [down the center driveway] onto brown gravel driveway. Our house is stained ripe-wheat/gold with brown trim.

Editors note: Ann and Mike have worked for nearly 20 years on building native habitats. Even if you don't want to make a wreath, this is your chance to see the best private reconstruction in this region of the state and learn how it was created.

## Holiday Party

Invitation from Vanessa Melton-Silvey

This year's Hawthorn Chapter Holiday Party will be Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 12 pm, at Vanessa's and David's house close to New Franklin. We will have appetizers and wassail at noon with the main lunch being served around 1 pm.

Please bring a dish to share with the group. See directions below if you haven't been there before this. Call Vanessa if you have any questions at 573-698-3337.

I-70 W to Old 40/Midway/Fayette Exit; go north (right, really west) toward New Franklin.

After passing the second Hwy. 240 (to Fayette), go one mile to County Rd. 441 on the right. (Sign is still bent)

If you cross a bridge into the river bottoms you have gone too far.

On County Rd. 441, look for the 2nd driveway on the left. Turn left on the 2nd driveway and go straight into the woods past the log cabin house. Our house is woodland green at the end of the drive. Room for 4-5 cars in front of the garage. If you can walk, park at the edge of the woods. Ignore the "Keep Out" signs - they are not for you. :-)



Creative genius at work at a past wreath workshop.

BE photo

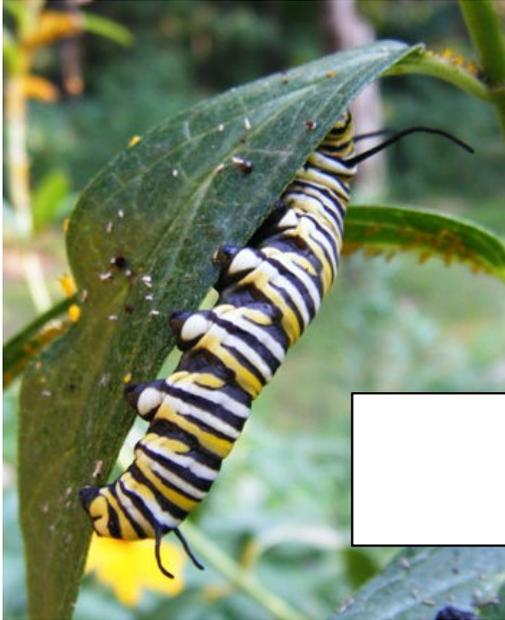


Paula's wreath, was made last year. You, too, could have a beautiful natural wreath on your door this winter.

# Monarch Report

Submitted by Becky Erickson

I have noticed Monarch butterflies all of the life that I remember. In the early '80's, I was impressed by the hundreds roosting for the night in a hedge apple fence row south of Kansas City. I have seen flocks of them trying to avoid the drafts of highway vehicles as they head south. I reported on the marvel of at least 50 caterpillars denuding my *Asclepias incarnata* bush in just a few days [see the Sept 2007 newsletter in our website archives].



Caterpillar on *Asclepias incarnata* garden.

Since 2007 I have noticed the numbers dwindling. I saw a program on PBS on the same subject. This year it was worth note to see one Monarch – or an event to see a few at once! So I sent out a survey to all the chapter members. I received nine responses. The locations of observations are in town and rural, northwest and south of Columbia. So it is a pretty good cross section. All totaled there were 45 adults seen, of these we were certain 11 were newly emerged. Fifty caterpillars were observed among these nine locations; 6 chrysalis were spotted – one didn't emerge.

Why are the numbers so low? The forest in Mexico where they spend the winter is a protected refuge, but clearcutting is done right up to the boundaries of the refuge and lumber poaching from the refuge is hard to deter. So the valley and trees where the Monarchs winter becomes increasingly exposed and cold.

We can't blame it all on Mexico. To the north – all the way into Canada, fencerows, roadsides, and marginal land where wildflowers and pollinators found refuge until about 20 years ago have been 'cleaned up' with herbicides and large mowers. There are now enormous expanses of monoculture crops genetically infused with insecticides where there once was open prairie. Recently these insecticides have been found in wild vegetation.

All I can suggest is to never use systemic insecticides on any of your own garden, and limit even careful use of surface insecticides. Plant and nurture as many wild seeds and plants as you can to fill needs of Monarchs and other butterflies. Encourage your friends and family to do the same.

Monarch Watch is centered at KU in Lawrence KS. There is much more information on their website - Monarch Watch. What you do for Monarchs will benefit the whole environment.

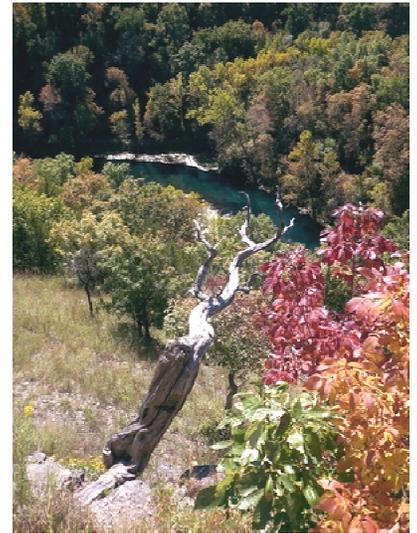
Monarch adult drawing nectar from a favorite, *Aster novaeangliae* in Anderson's garden. KA photo



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## Mosey to HaHa Tonka

Paula, John, Lynn and Becky [and dog Charlie] escaped the hubbub of Columbia to explore the woods and glades of HaHa Tonka State Park Saturday October first. It was fun to identify remaining structures of earlier summer plants. Delicate dittany graced the trail edge thru the open forest. The blues of asters and the yellows of goldenrods were a glorious contrast on the glades. Fall glad onion decorated the open glades of auburn grass with lovely balls of pink. A few rough blazingstar caught our attention with bright pink sprays. We stopped at Seven Springs winery on the way home for fresh wraps and salads. Hope you can join us next time.



View of HaHa Tonka [laughing water] Springs from the Castle overlook BE photo

## Tribute to a Great Holistic Conservationist

*Submitted by Becky Erickson*

Maybe it was my very fortunate research trip to Kenya, maybe it was hearing that a woman environmentalist in Kenya had won the Nobel Peace Prize, maybe it was my chance to see the documentary of her life on PBS, , , no it was all of this. I had not thought of Dr. Maathai for a long time. I guess I was at peace feeling that she was doing good work in East Africa. September 25<sup>th</sup> her name ran through my mind for no apparent reason. Then, on the 26<sup>th</sup> I heard of her passing; I had instinctively known before the media brought me the news.

It wasn't just her environmental efforts that were important, but her holistic view of Life and the Human community on Earth, and the passionate efforts she made to right social wrongs that made her very worthy of the Nobel Peace Prize.

I have copied a few paragraphs from the website set up for the Green Belt Movement she founded. Both before and since she won the Nobel Peace Prize, Wangari Maathai spoke about, and was interviewed on, a range of subjects. You can read these articles, interviews, and statements, by visiting the Green Belt website; simply type her name in the search line of your server. If you take the on-line newsletter, the links highlighted in green might work.

“Wangari Maathai was the founder of the Green Belt Movement, an environmentalist, a civil society and women's rights activist, and a former parliamentarian. You can read about her life and her organization in her books (see below). You can also scan condensed versions of her **life** and **achievements**, including being awarded the **2004 Nobel Peace Prize**. Since winning the Nobel Peace Prize, Wangari Maathai had become a spokesperson for a number of important **initiatives**.

**It is with great sadness that the family of Professor Wangari Maathai announces her passing away on 25th September, 2011, at the Nairobi Hospital, after a prolonged and bravely borne struggle with cancer. Her loved ones were with her at the time.**

Professor Maathai's departure is untimely and a very great loss to all who knew her—as a mother, relative, co-worker, colleague, role model, and heroine; or who admired her determination to make the world a more peaceful, healthier, and better place.

Prof. Wangari Muta Maathai started the Green Belt Movement in 1977, working with women to improve their livelihoods by increasing their access to resources like firewood for cooking and clean water. She became a great advocate for better management of natural resources and for sustainability, equity, and justice. **A synopsis of her life and work can be read here .”**



BE photo

## Spring Creek Gap Mosey

Once again John, Nancy and Becky [an, of course, Charlie] headed out of town to Maries County and one of the best kept secrets in mid-Missouri: Spring Creek Gap NA. October 22 was a bit warm, but a good breeze kept us comfortable. A long list of asters flanked by several goldenrods bobbed their blue and golden heads along the easy trail – a logging road. Area managers had used fire frequently to maintain about 600 acres of glades and hollows in the middle of SCG. Nancy commented that with views like this – why would anyone need to go East to see the woods there? . . . Will you miss the next trip?



Smooth sumac and Aster turbinellis

BE photo

**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 Bradford Plant Sale. 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

**If you forgot to renew in July, you can still renew now.**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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