



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 6
Hawthorn Chapter Officers:

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

Vice President

Secretary
Lea Langdon
864-7647
langtree@gmail.com

Treasurer
John George
573-234-1784
John.George@mdc.mo.gov

Membership
Paula Peters
2216 Grace Ellen Dr
Columbia, MO 65202
573-474-4225
pierida1@gmail.com

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

Web Master
Doug Miller
thedesign@bigthe.com

Web site:
<http://columbianativeplants.org/>

The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send submissions by the 26th to:

Communications Editor
Becky Erickson
573-657-2314
beckyerick711@centurylink.net
PO BOX 496
Ashland, MO 65010

June 2013

Future Activities

Watch email for email 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 **Call Paula for more information.** Carpool meeting place, commuter parking lot at AC and US63.

We will no longer offer planned tours of local wild areas. Occasionally one will be posted on the calendar. Otherwise, only interested members will be contacted by email a few days in advance of a mosey activity. As stated above, let your ideas for a mosey location be noticed. We will let the rest of the local membership know about the visit to your favorite location.

In case you didn't notice the announcement about dues in the last Petal Pusher:

DUES ARE DUE

Use the form on the last page of this document and send to Paula – address on form.

June

1 - 2, Sat-Sun Missouri Prairie Foundation's Fourth Annual Prairie BioBlitz on at Lattner and Denison Prairies in Vernon/Barton Counties. Google Earth map of Denison/Lattner Prairies. When you RSVP info@moprairie.com or calling 1-888-843-6739.[see more information and schedule inside].

14-16, Fri eve – Sun noon. Summer State field trip — [SE] Salem or Ellington, Cave Branch Camp. See May Petal Pusher for two pages of directions, field trip agenda and motel suggestions.

13 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts, Date has changed due to conflict with the next activity. 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information. Plan logistics for booth the next week.

20 Thursday, Booth set up and plant sale at Bradford Farm for Quail Day. 1 to 6 pm. Call Paula to volunteer – Please!

July

8 Monday Regular Membership Meeting, 7 PM Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Program TBA.

18 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information

August

1 Thursday – planning for participation in Organic gardening workshop at Bradford Farm. Look for details in future issues.

20-22, 2013 – [NE] Kirksville, Morris Prairie and Union Ridge CA **See MONPS facebook page for details.**

15 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information

MONPS State Board Meeting Schedule for 2013

Winter - December 7, 2013 – Columbia, Dunn-Palmer Herbarium

Thanks to Ann Wakeman, Nadia Navarette-Tindall, Nancy Langworthy for their articles; Mike Rues, Vanessa Silvey, Ann Wakeman for their photos in the newsletter this month. Thanks to Doug Miller for keeping the website up to date. We would like to get announcements, impressions, species accounts, poems, links to scientific articles or other creative nature writing from you, too.

Mosey with Mo Prairie Foundation

4th Annual Prairie BioBlitz--June 1 and 2, 2013 Free event--great for families, scouts, and nature enthusiasts of all ages!

You are invited to participate in the Missouri Prairie Foundation's Fourth Annual Prairie BioBlitz on June 1 and 2, 2013, at Lattner and Denison Prairies in Vernon/Barton Counties. At these beautiful prairies owned by the Missouri Prairie Foundation take part in intensive nature study with experts on mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, bees, ants, butterflies, planthoppers, moths, and plants, and help inventory species from the 440 acres of these two prairies divided by the county line. An interest in nature is all that is required!

After an afternoon of prairie exploration and a potluck picnic dinner, astronomers will interpret the night sky with telescopes, and participants can learn about bats and nocturnal insects. Free tent camping is available on the prairie. Additional surveying and inventory work will continue on the morning of June 2.

At the first, second, and third Prairie BioBlitz's, held at three different MPF prairies, participants documented 16 species of amphibians and reptiles, hundreds of plants, including 33 species of mosses and other bryophytes, blooming orchids, and a rush previously undocumented from prairies, 20 species of butterflies, dozens of bird species, and Arkansas darters, a fish that is a candidate for federal listing.

What MPF provides: a big tent for eating under, chairs, tables, and portable toilets.

What you should bring: tent camping supplies, outdoor clothing, sunscreen, flashlight, field guides and camera if you wish; and drinking water, plates, utensils, and a dish to share at the potluck dinner. You may also want to bring food for breakfast on June 2 and snacks. A stove will be available for making coffee and tea in the morning. Tip: rubber boots are nice for shielding against morning dew.

Google Earth map of Denison/Lattner Prairies.

Directions: (Denison T33N, R31W, S5; Lattner T34, R31, S32) Three and one-half miles west of Hwy. 49/71 at Sheldon on Hwy. N, 1.5 miles south on county gravel road, 0.25 mile east on gravel road. Look for the big tent.

RSVP for the BioBlitz by emailing info@moprairie.com or calling 1-888-843-6739. When you RSVP, be sure to indicate which field study groups you want to join (one per time period, see schedule below).

June 1, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. or longer:

Vascular plants with Justin Thomas of the Institute for Botanical Training, 20 max in group

Butterflies with lepidopterist Phil Koenig, no max

Bees with Mike Arduser, insect heritage biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation, 15 max

Fish and other aquatics with Tom Priesendorf and Kara Tvedt, fisheries biologists with the Missouri Department of Conservation, 15 max.

Planthoppers with Dr. Stephen Wilson, entomologist with the University of Central Missouri, 15 max.

June 1, 4 p.m. to approximately 6 p.m.:

Set out small mammal traps with Dr. Vicki Jackson of the University of Central Missouri. Need 5 to 10 people to help.

Ants with Dr. James Trager of Shaw Nature Reserve, 10 max

Insect coloration with entomologist Richard Thoma, 10 max

6 p.m.: Potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share!

Thirty minutes before dark:

Bat talk followed by potential hike to detect bats, 20 max

Moths with Phil Koenig, no max

Nocturnal Insect Black Light Station (no sign up needed)

Star Gazing station with Dan Johnson with the Astronomical Society of Kansas City (no sign up needed)

June 2, 7:30 a.m. to approximately 9 a.m.

Bird mist netting with Dana Ripper and Ethan Duke of the Missouri River Bird Observatory, 15 max.

Bird walk with Bruce Schuette, MPF's Vice President of Science & Management

Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts, hornworts) with bryologist Nels Holmberg, no max

8:00 a.m.

Amphibians and reptiles with John Miller of the Missouri Department of Conservation, 20 max.

Check small mammal traps with Dr. Vicki Jackson, 15 max

10:00 a.m.

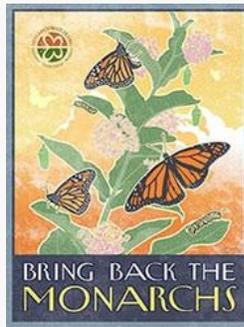
Butterflies with Phil Koenig, no max.

To RSVP, call **888-843-6739** or send a message to info@moprairie.com



What you can do to help Bring Back the Monarch:

Submitted by Ann Wakeman



Plant milkweeds for monarch caterpillars.

Plant a native butterfly garden or nectar waystations for adult monarchs.

Reduce or eliminate pesticides applied to flowering plants; this includes garden vegetables and fruits.

Spread the word - help Monarch conservation take flight.

Many of these plants are available from our Chapter nursery. Call Becky for an appointment 657-2314. Quality plants for you and \$\$ goes to our grant fund.

Missouri Milkweeds for monarchs (In order of food preference):

- 1 Marsh milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- 2 Common milkweed (*A. syriaca*)
- 3 Butterfly milkweed (*A. tuberosa*) >> *BE photo*
- 4 Whorled milkweed (*A. verticillata*)
- 5 Purple milkweed (*A. purpurascens*)

Native Nectar plants for monarchs:

Coneflowers (*Echinacea* sp.); Milkweeds (*Asclepias* sp.)
Blazingstars (*Liatris* sp.); Goldenrods, Sage, Mints, Asters; Phlox (*Phlox* sp.)

Websites for more information

<http://www.wildones.org/land/monarch/>

<http://monarchwatch.org/waystations/waystation-brochure.pdf>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/monarchbuttrfily/faqs.shtml>

You are invited to a summer evening get-together Hawthorn Chapter potluck dinner at my house on July 7th, 5 pm to 8 pm. The a/c will be on inside, the porch fans will be on, and usually there's a good breeze anyway, so you should be comfortable if it's hot. We have wonderful views of the sunset, good places to wander, even a fishing pond if that appeals to you.

I'll put out a ham, a vegetable or salad, and iced tea. I'd appreciate it if you each brought something to share for dinner. I have a gas grill, if someone would like to use it; it's not my expertise.

Please let me know if you can come. My number is 874-2463, my email is langworthyn@gmail.com.

You can get a googlemap of possible routes to our address: 7301 N Boothe Lane. Quick directions: There are at least two routes: you can just head west on I-70 to Midway where you pick up Hwy 40 going west; take Boothe to the right off Hwy 40 and head north; or you can take J (from either I-70 or Hwy 40) north to the water tower at Woodlandville, make a sharp right on to Boothe, and come back south 1.1 miles. A black mailbox on the west side of Boothe marks our driveway.

Well-behaved dogs are welcome. NOTE: Our two old dogs have passed on. We now have 3 cats (no cat chasing or barking or other such harassment will be allowed).

[That odd date is the anniversary of our being back in the US after decades overseas, and I'd like to celebrate that anniversary with you all. We flew into Chicago with our two dogs early on July 7th, and a friend kindly drove us all back to our farm in Woodlandville (it was so hot that the airlines refused to carry the dogs into St. Louis).]



YOUR chapter needs help with Booth



April Sale at Bradford Farm

VM-S photo

The request is that we need a few more hands to help. We also need someone with a van or truck to move the tables and display boards. You can call the member who keeps the nursery Becky, 657-2314, to find out what needs to be done and when it needs to be done.

We are asking for only a few days in the spring and a couple of days in the fall for you to help with an effort to inspire people to get back in touch with nature and understand the value of our native vegetation.

Announcements:

May Meeting Presentation Was Insect Threats to Missouri Forests

Submitted by Nadia Navarrete-Tindall

Douglas G. LeDoux, State Survey Coordinator with the Missouri Department of Agriculture explained the threat of exotic and invasive insect pests and diseases that Missouri forests have faced and will continue to face. Several exotic pests have already become established in the state and threaten several native tree species. Others have been detected in other states and have the potential to become established here as well should they manage to get here. He told us about the damage, lifecycles, and movement of insects and disease in trees. With this information, you as a citizen can help prevent that from happening.



June 13 Lunch at RagTag

Since we have an activity set for 20th, Lunch will be on **13 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts**, Meet for lunch 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Lunches have been well attended this winter and spring with lively discussions. Hope to see you there.



Our Network

Look for announcements by email of activities with Missouri Prairie Foundation [MPF], WildOnes [WO] Columbia Audubon Society [CAS] and training from Stream Team and MO Master Naturalists. Other pertinent information comes from Plant Conservation Alliance [PCA]. Direct membership in all of these is free or nominal and can bring you a wealth of information on natural environmental issues. You won't have this source forever.



Don't forget to keep a journal of first leaves, first flowers, first seed and report it to Bud Burst. Search the NRCS Plant Database on line for plant identification and habitat needs.



Project Table is still available ONLY \$100

Large sturdy plywood table with folding legs. So you can store it against a wall. Well made by a cabinet maker. 3' by 8' with 4" skirts; all varnished. The pocket change requested [only \$100; really worth about \$400] goes back into the chapter educational grant fund.

Call Becky 657-2314 for viewing and pickup.

Sand Prairie, Sand Savanna & Sand Forest Field Trip with MPF

Submitted by Ann Wakeman

Sand prairies in Missouri's bootheel? What? Yes, there is a lot of sand in southeast Missouri. Natural History biologist Bob Gillespie lead field trips 11 May for Mo Prairie Foundation to see a privately owned sand prairie, privately owned sand savanna being restored and a Missouri Department of Conservation sand prairie, portions of which are intact and others are being restored.



Puccoon on the Sand Prairie

MR photo

Approximately 25,000 acres of sand prairie existed prior to European settlement, generally around the Scott county area. This sand as sediment washed down the river system and deposited over the millennia. Some sand in the alluvial plains in SE Missouri came from the glacial outwash of Lake Agassiz at the headwaters of the Mississippi River other silt came from erosion of the Ozark Mtns.

The water table can be just a few inches below the surface, or several feet, depending on how deep the sand is. A large active sandblow, a non-stabilized sand dune exists at Sand Prairie Conservation Area.



Investigating the unstable sandblow

MR photo

These sand prairies, sand savannas and sand forests have a unique mix of plant species, some we were familiar with and others new to us. In flower at this time were Ohio spiderwort, blue-eyed grass, yellow star grass, sand coreopsis. Species unique to this habitat are the noble Old Plainsman, bright yellow Carolina puccoon, dotted beebalm, jointweed, splitbeard bluestem, sand hickory and clasping milkweed.

Jamie, Carol Davit and Mike Leahy's son, found a skink impaled on a small pine shrub by a shrike. We nearly stumbled over a nesting killdeer who sat through lots of photos amidst the prickly pear cactus.



Spiders make burrows in the sand prairie. To stabilize the openings, they have fenced it with stacks of vegetation to keep the sand from caving in around them.

AW photo



Bob introduced us to a veteran of show & tell, Miss Hiss, a plains hognose snake.

MR photo

The last place we toured featured sand savanna after large amounts of autumn olive are removed from a private farm. Highlights included a sand swale wetland and old abandoned fields too poor for farming which



MR photo

<<<Plant mentioned here

became trash deposits. Trash removed, these fields are now flourishing with sand prairie plants courtesy of prescribed burns. [Ask knowledgeable members about the benefits of burning any habitat.]

Old Plainsman

[*Hymenopappus scabiosaeus*]

See Steyermark 2; p518 and plate 227, p193. Or search

NRCS Plant Database on line.

March Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Lea Langdon Secretary

Ann Wakeman called the meeting to order at 6:10. There were 13 in attendance.

We discussed having some meetings in conjunction with the Wild Ones group, and participating in their 2013 Monarch Watch program.

Activities were discussed and requests for volunteers to help get plants ready to sell for our booths at the Bradford Plant sale and Earth Day, and to help at our booths.

Becky brought up the Audubon catalogue, where non-native plants were suggested for encouraging monarchs. Denny suggested that either the statewide Native Plant Society, or our own local chapter write to Audubon explaining our problem with this. Becky followed up by pointing out Prairie Moon as an interesting catalogue for native plants. Ann made a point that although the information in the catalogue is good (and the innoculants are fine), the seeds and plants are too far out of our area and should not be purchased from them.

Rhett Hartman, a graduate student at MU studying katydids made an interesting presentation about katydids. He included information about the 2 local varieties, their life-cycles, their chirping sounds (males only make them, by moving their wings together), and their predators (bats, birds, spiders and even katydids when they overpopulate). They need tall grasses like big bluestem and little bluestem for their mating rituals, so look for them in the prairie. Pink katydids can even be seen at Paintbrush Prairie.



WATCH FOR TURTLES!

With all the constant rain and lush growth, box turtles, sliders and snappers will be disbursing far and wide to find food, mates and new homes. They are a nomadic bunch. At any rate, their territories are crisscrossed with our roads and highways. Not a fair competition for attack and retreat.

PLEASE – PLEASE! Do your best to avoid running over turtles. If you are on a gravel road or a seldom traveled secondary highway, look to see if it is safe to move the turtle on across the road in the same direction he is moving. These harmless little guys don't deserve to be mashed, mangled, mistreated in any way on our roads.

Don't wait until your name is removed from the mailing list. Send your dues to Paula now.

May Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Lea Langdon Secretary

Nancy Langworthy called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and introduced Douglas G. LeDoux, State Survey Coordinator with the Missouri Department of Agriculture. He spoke for an hour on tree diseases and predators.

Some insects that are being monitored but have not yet reached Missouri are the Emerald Ash Borer (which attacks ash trees) and the Asian Longhorn Beetle (which spreads the Thousand Canker's Disease that kills black walnut trees). Missouri has more black walnut trees than any other state, so this will likely be a big problem in coming years.

There are more than 400 non-indigenous forest pests in this country and more come in each year. We can make a difference by helping to slow the spread of these insect pests by not moving firewood, especially from distances, or of unknown origins. Do not buy firewood from distant or unknown sources, including such places as Craig's List, since these could be from dead trees in infected areas of the country, and could harbor live insects or insect eggs.

Since our May meeting and presentation was held at the library, the only business discussed at the meeting was Becky's suggestion of the possibility of participating in the Organic Gardening Workshop at Bradford on August 1st. Becky will get more detailed information so we can discuss the possibilities further at a later time.



Old, male, three-toed in breeding colors with friend. BB photo

Exchange screen time for green time!

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

MEMBERSHIP FORM Missouri Native Plant Society-Hawthorn Chapter

July 1 through June 30. Dues are Due NOW!

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 or reminders without request for phone contact.

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