



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 11  
Hawthorn Chapter Officers:

**President**

Vanessa Melton  
573-864-3905  
[vanndawn@gmail.com](mailto:vanndawn@gmail.com)

**Vice President**

**Secretary**

Lea Langdon  
864-7647  
[langtree@gmail.com](mailto:langtree@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

John George  
573-234-1784  
[John.George@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:John.George@mdc.mo.gov)

**Membership**

Paula Peters  
2216 Grace Ellen Dr  
Columbia, MO 65202  
573-474-4225  
[pieridae1@gmail.com](mailto:pieridae1@gmail.com)

**Chapter Representative**

Ann Wakeman  
5798 Windy Meadows Lane  
Fulton, MO 65251  
573-642-6927  
[mike-ann@socket.net](mailto:mike-ann@socket.net)

**Web Master**

Doug Miller  
[thedesign@bigthe.com](mailto: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 26<sup>th</sup> to:

**Communications Editor**

Becky Erickson  
573-657-2314  
[beckyerick711@centurylink.net](mailto:beckyerick711@centurylink.net)  
PO BOX 496  
Ashland, MO 65010

November 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.

## November

**3 Sunday: Wreath workshop and potluck. 12 to 4-ish. See article inside for location and information**

**11 Monday: Membership Meeting, 6 PM** Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. **Christine C. Rega presents** ways to attract birds to your backyard garden and which native plants can provide the necessary resources for the birds of central Missouri. Details inside.

**14 Thursday: Deadline** to get calendar orders to Paula. Details inside.

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

## December

**7 Saturday 10 am: Winter State Meeting -- Columbia, Dunn-Palmer Herbarium**  
**Everyone is welcome to offer suggestions for field trips and MONPS policies.**

**19 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts**, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information. Come Downtown for a day of Holiday shopping and join us for lunch.

## January

**13 Monday 6 PM Membership Meeting** Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd.

**Thanks to Ann Wakeman, Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, Paula Peters, Allison Vaughn, Vanessa Melton-Silvey, and Lea Langdon for their submissions.**

**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.**

## Announcements

### November Meeting Presentation

**Birds in the Big City: The Role of Urban Greenspaces**  
Presented by Christine C. Rega, GRA, Dept F&W, MU

Urban land cover will increase globally by 1.2 million km<sup>2</sup> by 2030, which suggests a limited window of opportunity to develop wildlife-focused urban landscaping policies. Determining ways to increase potential for wildlife habitat within urban greenspaces is critical in today's urban expanses. Particularly for birds, large forest fragments are important areas for migratory stopovers, nesting locations, and food resources; however limited studies have been conducted to assess if small greenspaces provide similar resources. Small greenspaces within cities, such as vacant lots and residential yards, may provide important food and nesting resources for birds that are often overlooked. The goals for my dissertation research are to determine how vegetation within small greenspaces, and their locations, affect avian abundance patterns, nest success rates, and body conditions. In this talk, I will also discuss easy ways to attract birds to your backyard garden and which native plants can provide the necessary resources for the birds of central Missouri.



### **Holiday Party 2013!**

*An invitation from Vanessa Melton-Silvey*

The holidays are upon us with Halloween just around the corner, or by the time you read this newsletter, Halloween will just have happened. So after you filled your belly with a turkey dinner it will be time to start dreaming of a white Christmas. Between those two events though will be something you won't want to miss...

#### **The Hawthorn Chapter Holiday Party.**

This year's celebration will be Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 12 pm, at Vanessa and David's house close to New Franklin. See directions below on how to get there if you haven't been there before. 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. Call Vanessa if you have any questions at 573-698-3337, and please...no dogs.

Directions:

Take I-70 W to the Midway/Fayette Exit and go north (right) on 40 Hwy. Keep going all the way past the highway to Fayette (Hwy. 240) as if you were heading to New Franklin. After you pass the second Hwy. 240, go another mile to County Rd. 441 on the right. If you cross a bridge into the river bottoms you have gone too far west.

On County Rd. 441, notice the first driveway on the left, followed by a brown house on the right. Turn down the 2nd driveway on the left into the woods [past the log cabin house]. Ignore the "Keep Out" signs - they are not for you. :-)

Our woodland green house is at the end of the road; park anywhere you can find a space.



### November 3 Sunday

### Wreath Workshop and Potluck

at Nancy Breakage's house **Sun Nov 3, 12 to 4-ish.**  
7852 S. Hill Creek Road.

Directions: from Columbia travel all the way south on Providence Road to Route K at Rockbridge Elementary School. Take Route K south (toward McBaine) 1.3 miles to left on Hill Creek Road, continue 1.3 miles on Hill Creek to 7852 on the left (look for a big mailbox).

Bring a wreath base (\$3-\$4 at craft stores) - or two, 24 to 26-gauge wire (\$2 at craft stores), plant clippers and some interesting dried plant parts from your garden or a wild area [shake the seeds out there]. Some cedar boughs with blue berries will be brought by Ann, but if you want to trim your female tree, bring those branches.

For pot luck bring your favorite protein for yourself and a side dish to share. A hot oven or microwave will be available to prepare your meat. Paper plates, plastic ware and drinks are provided, or bring your own. Plans are to eat 12 -1:00 p.m.

Plan to arrive 11:30-12:00 if you can only come for the meal. I hope you'll come for both.



### Nov 21 Thurs Lunch at RagTag

Meet for lunch 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Lunches have been well attended with lively discussions. Hope to see you there.



### 2014 MDC Nature Calendars

*Submitted by Paula Peters*

We will once again be ordering MDC Nature Calendars for the holidays.

You may also order any book that is published by MDC. I will

accept orders from now until November 14, by phone (573-881-4225), at the November meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and by email ([pieridael@gmail.com](mailto:pieridael@gmail.com)). The **order will be placed on November 15**. The calendars will be available at the Holiday party, Dec. lunch, the regular January meeting, or can be picked up at my home (2216 S Grace Ellen Dr., Columbia), or a place in town of your choosing. The price for the calendars will be \$6.00. These make great holiday gifts.



## Beneficial Insects? Really?

Submitted by Ann Wakeman

If you garden, you may have seen listings for biological pest control. Lady bugs, praying mantis, parasitic wasps . . . The first thought is, yea, no pesticides. Wait! Even though they could be considered beneficial i.e., eat everything that is bothering your garden; did you know those lady bugs and praying mantis are not native to this continent?



Someone figured out it was easier to raise Asian lady bugs and praying mantids in captivity and sell them as biologic pest control than to raise the native counterparts. Lady bugs are shipped as live adults, the mantids as egg cases. The genie is out if the bottle. I'd started noticing these enormous mantids a

number of years ago, just noticed them. Our native plants have attracted more insects over time, so didn't think about it much other than picking off egg masses whenever I saw them late in the season.

This summer, however, I started seeing large numbers of them. Observed them hanging out where ever there were blooms, especially on taller plants, sometimes with a bee or butterfly. Then, one afternoon, on a native thistle in September, I saw it. A



ruby throat hummingbird captured by one of those enormous Asian mantids. The little bird was being eaten and though it was released as soon as I grabbed the mantid, was too traumatized to live much longer.

*Ann's photo of a mantid [upside down] eating a hummingbird.*

I have 'dispatched' somewhere around 100 of these 'beneficial' insects. I now feel strongly these large insects likely require a lot of food. They seem to feed on pollinating bees, bumblebees, butterflies including at least 4 monarchs.



What is the impact on our dwindling native insects and pollinators? Also am collecting and crushing every egg mass found to somewhat diminish their presence here. If you'd like to see a comparison of the Asian egg mass compared to the native mantid egg case, search for mantid egg case images on line.



The native is small, flat, approx. 1/2 inch by 1 inch usually located close to ground on a stick or a rock.



Asian is larger, rounded and attached on a stem either close to ground or on small twigs on small trees.

**Yep, another exotic impacting our natural world.**

Further insight from Becky Erickson: I, too, found these monsters perched on flowers with piles of butterfly wings beneath. The last straw was when I found a pile of goldfinch feathers under some prairie dock plants; I looked up to find a pair mating!! Once found, I don't leave them alive more than a few seconds. These voracious creatures are one more attack on what is left of our wounded ecosystems. The egg masses, about shooting marble size, do not burn. Last year I collected 4 and put them in a peanut butter jar. By mid winter they had all hatched and were busy eating each other. Another way to neutralize the egg balls is to put them in gasoline. Don't just throw them in the trash, they will just hatch in the landfill.

For more on the subject see this website: <http://nativeplantwildlifegarden.com/praying-mantises-which-are-the-good-ones/> See a very clear photo of a mantid eating a hummingbird on the feeder. This site is recommended for many aspects of native ecology.

## MNAC Annual Picnic at HaHa Tanka

*Submitted by Allison Vaughn*

The Missouri Natural Areas Committee, established over 30 years ago, consists of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, the National Park Service and the Missouri Department of Conservation. The goals and mission of the Natural Areas Program include identifying, designating, managing, and restoring the best remaining examples of natural communities and geological sites that encompass the full spectrum of Missouri's natural heritage. The protection of biodiversity remains a primary function of the Missouri Natural Areas Committee and, in Missouri, numerous constituent groups promote similar goals and objectives. In recent years, MoNAC formed a Friends of Natural Areas group that includes local and state Audubon societies, Missouri Native Plant Society and chapters, Missouri Coalition for the Environment, the L-A-D Foundation and numerous other environmental constituents.

On October 18, a crisp autumnal bluebird morning, members of several constituent groups and private individuals joined Missouri Natural Areas Committee members at Ha Ha Tonka State Park for a guided hike followed by a potluck lunch designed to meet some of the Friends of Natural Areas. The Missouri Native Plant Society-Hawthorn Chapter, the Columbia Audubon Society, the Audubon Society of Missouri, and the Missouri Botanical Garden were all represented at the Friends hike and potluck at Ha Ha Tonka. Becky Erickson, Laura Hillman, and Allison Vaughn represented the Hawthorn Chapter at the event.

The morning began with a two mile hike on the Quarry Trail led by Ha Ha Tonka Park Naturalist Larry Webb. This trail, while located next to the mansion ruins which serve as the park's main attraction, receives little foot traffic. The Quarry Burn Unit has been under fire management since 2002, and ecosystem restoration efforts including cedar removal began in 1999. The scenic trail traverses a series of recently restored glades and encompasses an area that, in January 2012, was accessioned to the Ha Ha Tonka Oak Woodland Natural Area which was expanded from 952 acres to include 2,995 acres. Natural Area designation provides a level of protection from future development and will mandate that the expansion units are managed to their highest and best use for the protection of biodiversity.

Following the hike on the Quarry Trail, the Friends group and the MoNAC members visited a 12 acre glade belt along Spencer Creek that was the focus of a 2010 Missouri Bird

Conservation Initiative grant. The grant allowed for cedar removal and prescribed fire implementation across the glade and woodland complex. Since cedar removal was completed in early 2011,



## Midway Heights Elementary Native Planting Service Learning

*Update on Grant activities submitted by Lea Langdon*

Last year students in Midway's fifth grades had worked to cover a large area of fescue on one edge of what had been part of their original native planting.

By this fall the area had grown back in annual weeds--ugly, but fairly easy to pull. This fall, these fifth graders had two class periods in their native planting area, assisted by the Columbia Outdoor Classroom Project. The first day they "stalked the area" quietly and slowly moving through the area looking for things of interest to write &/or draw about in their science notebooks.

The following week they worked in the native area, pulling crabgrass to make room for the planting of native grasses and forbs, and then planting switchgrass, little bluestem and other plants and seeds. These students enjoyed their time working with this planting and many of them will remember these experiences throughout their lives.

Lea's photo of students working on Midway native planting.



[MNAC – HHT cont.]

the glade was treated with prescribed fire in 2012 and scattered exotic species have been treated with herbicide. The area has responded with a robust and rich grass and forb cover. Fall wildflowers including silky aster and Drummond's goldenrod were at their peak that mid-October day.

Throughout the day, the birders in the group detected 39 species including winter residents such as yellow-bellied sapsuckers.

By lunchtime, the group gathered at the Post Office Picnic Shelter for a delicious potluck lunch and camaraderie. The Missouri Natural Areas Committee hopes to engage the Friends group annually for similar events.

## Native Plant Outdoor Laboratory

### Self-guided tour at Lincoln University

*Submitted by Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, Native Plant Extension Specialist, LU*

A small piece of Missouri's nature on the grounds of a University's campus is a little unusual; but at Lincoln University it is displayed at the Native Plant Outdoor Laboratory in front of Allen Hall and Foster Hall. The Native Plants Program has developed a 10-stop self-guided tour at this Laboratory where you can observe native plants including grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and small trees. More than 80 species of native plants than bloom in spring, summer or fall can be seen across this lab.

Signage can be seen throughout the lab and brochures are available at the red cedar gazebo. We have learned that some species do not do as well as we expected so the laboratory keeps evolving. If you or your groups are interested in visiting gardens on campus during weekdays let us know to reserve parking space(s) for you.

These gardens are a great place for Botanists and native plant enthusiasts. At the laboratory you will observe prairie tea (*Croton* sp.), black-eyed susans and beautyberry bushes. Butterflies, native bees and other pollinators, birds and other wildlife come for a drink of water at our bird bath or find refuge by feeding or perching on a native wildflower or a shrub in this urban sanctuary.

Take a tour to experience some of the natural beauty that grows in Missouri and beyond. Here you can get ideas about plants that would look just perfect in that special place in your own yard while they provide food or shelter for wildlife.

You will find plants that do well under full sunlight or under shade; some that grow well even under extreme heat with little or no rain.

Other gardens can be visited by the community garden on campus or at the two LU farms: George Washington Farm and Alan T. Busby Farm located a few minutes from Jefferson City.

Lincoln University Native Plant Program initiated establishing this laboratory in 2009 to provide a place for students, faculty and the public at large to learn about the native flora that naturally grow in glades, prairies, wetlands and woodlands in Missouri.

Visit and like our Facebook page: 'Lincoln University Native Plants Program' to receive updates about 2014 seminars, speakers, field days, classes and more.



*Native plant laboratory in front of Allen Hall on LU campus, Jefferson City.*

*NNT Photo*

### Petal Pusher: Proposed Change in Delivery

*Submitted by Becky Erickson Petal Pusher Editor*

If all of us with email accounts accept E-delivery, we could save MONPS over \$1500, possibly \$2000 per year in printing and postage costs. Also consider trees used for paper and gasoline used to go to printer and to Post Office.

I would still appreciate more responses for Petal Pusher delivery by email. As we transition into E-delivery of PP, [I must have your permission to stop receiving the printed, mailed, paper copy from St Louis.](#)

I believe the BOD wants paper copies to continue to be mailed until they are satisfied the E-delivery is satisfactorily received by most of the membership. So you will get both for a while. Hopefully the transition will be complete by January 2014. Be patient; old wheels turn slowly.

### COLORS



I took Charlie around to Baskett for a run. There was lots of evidence of turkey scratches and deer rubs. It was good to get into the wilder country now that tick numbers have diminished. Colors were very bright. In some places it was not on one side or the other of a stained glass window, BUT INSIDE a stained glass window; iridescent yellows and reds on the ground and in the air with the contrasts of green cedar and a few oaks holding out against the frost. Sorry you weren't with me.

**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