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

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Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

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Future Activities

June 4th, Saturday at 8:30 am: PGT Wildflower Walk. Prairie Garden Trust will be hosting a wildflower walk led by Tim Smith. Visit their website at <http://prairiegardentrust.org/> for more information.

June 16th, Thursday at 11:30 am: Lunch at Uprise Bakery. 10 Hitt St., just south of Broadway.

June 23rd, Thursday: Native Pollinator Symposium. More information about this Symposium is inside this newsletter.

July 11th, Monday at 7:00 pm: Bimonthly Meeting at Unitarian Church. Book discussion—'Teaming with Microbes'. See description below.

July 21st, Thursday at 11:30 am: Lunch at Uprise Bakery. 10 Hitt St., just south of Broadway.

July 31st Saturday at 10:00 am: PGT Butterfly Walk. Prairie Garden Trust will be hosting a butterfly walk. Visit their website at <http://prairiegardentrust.org/> for more information.

July 11th Meeting—Book Discussion

Have you ever wondered what is going on underground in your garden? I was recently fascinated by an explanation of the soil food web. It is similar to the ecosystems we try to create with our native plants above ground. Janice showed me a book she was reading called **TEAMING WITH MICROBES**, *The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web* by Jeff Lowenfels and Wayne Lewis. I

think we can have a lively discussion of this book, particularly Part 1. The Basic Science. Some may also be interested in Part 2, particularly if you have a vegetable garden and make your own compost. Quoting from the Forward by Dr. Elaine Ingram, "Real soil is active, alive, moving! Critters everywhere doing interesting things." The book is not long and reading the first half of it

will get you in on the discussion. I have also invited soil scientist, Fred Young, to join us as a consultant for questions and comments. The book is available at the Daniel Boone Regional Library as both a paperback and ebook. Hope this catches your interest as it did mine. Look forward to hearing what you have to say. Louise Fenner

Swamp-east Missouri Field Trips and Board Meeting

Submitted by Janice Albers



Leather Flower. Submitted by Janice Albers.

Spring MONPS state field trip, May 13-15 at Popular Bluff and surrounding CAs.

The spring field trips and meeting to swamp-east Missouri found NPS members splashing through flooded forest and open wetlands, with the youngest members having loads of fun. Luckily the mosquitoes and ticks had not yet got the upper hand and thankfully they were graciously absent. We visited Duck Creek CA first, hiking through old growth forest with trees that are large and tall: cherrybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*), willow oak (*Q. phellos*), with an extensive understory canopy of musclewood (*Carpinus caroliniana*), buttonbush (*C. occidentalis*) and spice bush (*Lindera benzoin*). Other water loving plants like lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*), jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), carex sp., butterweed (*Packera glabella*), water pliantain (*Alisma triviale*), arrowheads (*Sagittaria* spp.), and thalia (*Thalia dealbata*); creating habitat for water loving amphibians, finding frogs, smallmouth (*Ambystoma texanum*) and spotted salamanders (*A. maculatum*).

The evening entertainment was provided by Andrew Braun and Jen Weaver, both of Big Oak Tree State Park, discussing the loss of the floodplain forest (I was surprised to hear that most were removed in the 1950s) and that only a very few islands of forest are left (< 10%). This habitat has become some of the most endangered ecotype in the U.S.

Saturday morning brought cooler temperatures and more swamp loving species at Otter Slough CA, including many vines: cross vine (*Bignonia capreolata*), ladies' eardrops (*Brunnichia ovata*), leather vine (*Clematis pitcheri*, see figure). Here we saw the elusive northern spiderlily (*Hymenocallis occidentalis*), pumpkin ash (*Fraxinus profunda*), white water milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*), baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*), stiff dogwood (*Cornus foemina*), common fleabane (*Erigeron philadelphicus*), and sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*). And then off to Allred Lake Conservation Area which contained water oak (*Q. nigra*), water elm (*Planera aquatica*), water tupelo (*Nyssa aquatica*), water hickory (*Carya aquatica*), pepper vine (*Ampelopsis arborea*), creating habitat for nesting blue-grey gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*) and mating displays of ruby throated hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*).

All is not golden however, this area has issues with invasives including feral hogs, Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), sericea lespedeza, garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), and Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*).

The board meeting Saturday evening was directed by the MONPS president, John Oliver.

- Doug Ladd updated us on the progress of transitioning the printed *Missouriensis* to an electronic journal with only a couple hard copies going to libraries.
- John Oliver discussed how to make the state website more useful and possibly transferring it to a format that could be usable into the future. If anyone wants to volunteer their time to help please contact him (website knowledge is not required just willingness to help, he can teach what is needed). The facebook page is very active with over 6700 members with many outreach opportunities.

- The Hudson Awards Committee lead by Paul McKenzie reports four nominations have been received and the committee is currently considering all.

- T-Shirts are still available, but new ones will not be produced. The society is looking into using an online t-shirt producer to make and distribute our t-shirts. If anyone wants to volunteer to help, contact John Oliver.

- A grass class is being offered this fall at the Meramec Community College, including field trips.

- Status of the Missouri Plant website is still undetermined; however the Botanical Garden is still working on getting it back up and updating it.

- Dates for the fall meeting in Mound City, MO. Have been changed to 23 – 25 September. Contact Dana to tell her if you want to go to Iowa to see the savanna restoration.

Stiff Dogwood.
Courtesy of
Janice Albers.



Update on Marge McDermott Memorial Tree



Marge McDermott Memorial Tree. Submitted by Vanessa Melton.

This past May made for a gorgeous Spring with blooming plants and trees reaching a peak I had not seen in several years. As I was walking my dogs one afternoon in my neighborhood I was admiring a blooming tulip poplar tree in a neighbor’s yard. It reminded me of the Memorial Tree our Chapter planted in 2009 in honor of a past member, Marge McDermott. It had been a while

since I visited Rocheport, MO so I thought I would take a drive to check on the tree and the newly established City Park in which the tree was planted. Although I missed seeing it bloom (if it bloomed at all), the tree is thriving and the Park looks great! Just wanted to share this photo with you all.

Submitted by Vanessa Melton.

Dues are due July 1st!! See the Membership Form on the back of this newsletter for dues amounts. Submit dues to Paula Peters at 2216 Grace Ellen Dr., Columbia, MO 65202.

Upcoming Pollinator Symposium

Presented and hosted by the Missouri Botanic Garden in partnership with Grow Native!

Thursday, June 23, 8:00am – 3:30pm

Featuring keynotes by: Doug Tallamy, University of Delaware & author “Bringing Nature Home”; Roy Diblik, Northwind Landscape Design Division/Burlington, WI & author “The

KNOW Maintenance Perennial Garden” and Christine Nye, Horticulturist at Shedd Aquarium/Chicago, IL..

Courtesy of the Grow Native! website.

Editor’s Note: This event is free of charge. If you would like more information visit gardens.missouri.edu.

Mizzou Botanic Garden
University of Missouri
Invites you to the
Native Pollinator Symposium
Thursday, June 23, 2016
Bond Life Sciences Center on the MU campus
Featuring lectures, round table discussions and Q&As with
Doug Tallamy, Roy Diblik, Christine Nye
Collaborating Partners: Grow Native!, University of Missouri Extension, Wild Ones, Sierra Club, Daniel Boone Regional Library

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 the Spring Bradford Plant Sale. If you receive this by mail, please consider requesting email delivery.

- Regular (\$16.00)*
- Student (\$11.00)
- Contributing (\$26.00) Designate Chapter or State
- Paper Postal Service (\$5.00)
- State Lifetime (\$200.00)
- Chapter Lifetime (\$120.00—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 1st through June 30th.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: Evening _____

Day or Cell _____

Email _____

As of July 2015 printed paper Petal Pusher newsletters sent by post will cost an additional \$5.00 more than standard membership. Email delivery brings not only a color copy of the newsletter, but also updates and announcements between newsletters. The local Chapter newsletter will be sent by email.

Hawthorn Chapter Missouri Native Plant Society
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