



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

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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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We would like to read about announcements, impressions, species accounts, photos, poems, links to scientific articles or other creative nature writing **from you, too.**

November 2018

Future Activities Calendar

12 November Monday 6 pm Members Meeting Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd, Columbia. Notice Daylight Saving is rolled back to Central Sun Time so our meeting is at 6. We will get a briefing from one of the teachers who received a grant from us. This is also an important meeting to decide on Newsletter content and meeting time. Please make it proprietary to come to discuss these issues.

14 Nov Wednesday Grow Native Conference in Columbia 9 to 3. Tell Becky if you want to go. Whomever makes a commitment to go to this conference can contact Becky. https://www.moprairie.org/GrowNative/GrowNative/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=411bfa89-2e50-48ca-b2c3-0efc0dd4ca06&WebsiteKey=bcf187dc-ff08-4847-bf41-52aa6bcdd052 She can give a number to the organizer **before 8 Nov for lunch orders**. Anyone making a commitment must pay \$20 to cover lunch and registration; no refunds.

15 Nov Thursday 11:30 Lunch at RagTag. 10 Hitt St, just south of Broadway. Bring management questions and seeds for exchange.

16 Nov Friday Botanical Symposium in Rolla 9 to 3. <http://missouribotanicalsymposium.org/index.html> Registration includes a box lunch. You may register on your own ASAP. Carpools can be organized if you tell Becky if you want to go.

20 Dec Thursday 11:30 Lunch at RagTag. 10 Hitt St, just south of Broadway



Membership Dues are Due

June is renewal month. If you have been active more than a year, your \$16 needs to be sent in Now. If you are tired of remembering if-and-when you need to pay, you might consider a life membership [\$200 for state and \$120 for chapter]. If you joined since January, there is no need to renew this year.

Print the handy form on the last page; note - mail check to Paula.

If you want your Petal Pusher mailed to you on paper it will cost an additional \$10.



This is the 33rd year Hawthorn has supplied a newsletter to chapter members. Thanks to Doug Miller for keeping the chapter website up to date. Thanks to Louise and Carol Leigh who sent information.



Help Us Create a Bibliography of Educational Books

Please send your submissions to Louise Flenner at lflenner@hotmail.com.

This is an opportunity to help your NPS chapter without going outside or even leaving your living room!! We are in the process of creating a bibliography to educate our members. Disseminating education about Native plants is what we are about.

Please choose books that are related to Native Plants, their care, identification, relationships, uses, and related information. **3 books** per member is needed.

Classify your book as **Beginner, Intermediate, or Expert.** A recommendation is always quite helpful in choosing what to read or buy. **Include Title, Author, Publisher, Copyright Date** (if known)

Announcements

Lunch at RagTag Thurs 15 Nov

Meet our group for lunch 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Lunches have been well attended with lively discussions about plant and landscape management, alien control, and plans for the next activity. Hope to see you there.

MONPS Prairie Field Trips Sept 14-16, 2018

Submitted by Carol Leigh Brack-Kaiser

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." Aldo Leopold, 1949. A dear friend of mine, the late Charles Schwartz, was the illustrator for Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* in 1949. I knew Charlie in the mid-60s when we both worked for the Department of Conservation, and I, as the receptionist in the lobby, was blessed to be able to watch him at work painting the murals depicting the history of wildlife and conservation in Missouri.

This was the second Missouri Native Plant Society field trip I've taken, I am not a botanist, but have always enjoyed working with plants for food, fibers for spinning, for medicine, and especially for evoking natural colors for rainbows of dyes on yarns and wool potholder loops. I want to learn more about identifying plants in the field. Thus, the interest in these two field trips. The trips I have taken with MONPS has deepened my understanding of this Leopold quote.

On these field trips in September we visited 6 prairies south of Sedalia, Missouri. Two were on private property where the owners are working with agencies in the process of removing invasive plants and reintroducing native plants. Others are managed by the Missouri Prairie Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, and MDC.

We all met Friday afternoon at the Paintbrush Prairie Conservation Area managed by MDC. Justin Thomas was the botanist who guided us through all 6 prairies, pointing out how each has been managed and the status and progress made at each one to restore them to their natural state. Some of the plants identified at this prairie include (remember, I was jotting notes as fast as possible, and am not otherwise knowledgeable about many of these, so forgive some misspelling): slender mountain mint, flowering spurge, goat's rue, lead plant, grass-leaf goldenrod, ashy sunflower, cream indigo [*Baptisia bracteata*], bergamont [*Monarda fistulosa*], blazing star [*Liatris pycnostachya*], old field goldenrod [*Solidago nemoralis*], DYC (damn yellow composite), prairie gentian, downy gentian, tiny aster, white snake root (*Eupatorium rugosum* kills people who drink the milk from cows who eat it, as did Abraham Lincoln's mother), showy goldenrod [*Solidago speciosa*], prairie coreopsis [*Coreopsis*

Save the Date!

2018 Missouri Botanical Symposium

November 16, 2018

Rolla, MO



www.missouribotanicalsymposium.org



Register Your Garden For Monarchs

Sign up your garden as a Monarch Waystation with Monarch Watch. Then Join WildOnes [native landscaping] and register your garden for a beautiful sign.

LINK UP!!

I finally got onto the Biota of North America. The distribution maps are fascinating!

<http://www.bonap.org/>

I realize I'm the last to discover a good thing, but I'll post this for all who are one step behind me.

iNaturalist is a world-wide site used by 300G people who have made 10M observations.

Have a great time exploring!

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

Nadia's Yard: a blog by Randy Tindall

<http://nadiasyard.com/>

MONPS website

www.monativeplantsociety.org

Bush honeysuckle removal – contact Eric Bohle

ebohle4@gmail.com

Natural Events at Chert Hollow Farm: An archive of monthly natural events posts going back to 2011 is indexed here:

<http://cherthollowfarm.com/landscape/>

Wren Song

<http://www.ecosystemgardening.com/wren-song/>

Insect conservation: Xerces Society www.xerces.org

<https://xerces.org/bringbackthepollinators/>

<https://xerces.org/2018/04/19/tropical-milkweed-a-no-grow/>

<https://xerces.org/2018/04/04/rain-gardens-are-a-win-win/>

Plant identification: USDA plant database <http://plants.usda.gov>

Grow Native resources: www.grownative.com

palmata], wafer ash (*Ptelia trifoliata* in the citrus family), NJ tea, boneset [*Eupatorium serotinum*], sawtooth sunflower, smooth sumac, winged sumac, climbing false buckwheat, and many more.

Friday evening we met for a lecture, at the University Extension Center in Sedalia, led by Justin Thomas of Nature (CITE) Center for Integrative Taxonomy and Ecology, on "How Nature Works: A Prairie Perspective." He has inventoried types and numbers of plants found on each prairie, repeats those surveys for years, and keeps track of restoration practices on each prairie through burnings, mowings, removal of invasives, and seeding of natives. They use a one-half meter square frame on the ground, count and record every single plant within that frame, then move the frame to several other locations on the property. They use GPS markers to mark that same square every year to measure any improvements or changes from one year to the next. Plant counts on these prairies were from about 250 to over 400 plant varieties per prairie. Prairies are ranked with a C-value (coefficient of Conservation) from 0 - 10, with 0 - 3 being in some disturbance or distress, 4 - 6 being in some stress, and 7 - 10 measuring the prairie's stability, or quality of natural communities. He pointed out that burning of prairies every other or every third year was better done in late winter or early spring, rather than in the fall, so soil nutrients aren't washed away during winter. Usually only a portion of a prairie would be burned each year, rotating each portion year to year. Slow, cooler burns are better than very hot ones. In alternating years other parts of prairies are usually mowed. From 14,000 years ago, early native Americans realized the benefits of burning prairies annually. Burning stimulates some dormant seeds to sprout, as well as reduces unwanted weed stalks so native plants have a better chance to thrive.

Saturday morning we visited Goodnight Henry (2 previous owner's last names!) Prairie, managed by the Nature Conservancy. 284 species have been found on site. Some of the ones we saw were: hairy hawk weed, violet wood sorrel, a *Spiranthes* prairie orchid, false foxglove, lobelia, rosin weed, roundhead bushclover [*Lespedeza capitata*], Indian grass, big blue stem, ashy sunflower [*Helianthus mollis* often confused with *Silphium*, rosen weed). Oldfield goldenrod [*Solidago nemoralis*] is an indication of a disturbed field. Thistle [*Ciricum altissimum*] - if it has a white under-leaf, it is native. [Photo of downy gentian by Casey Burks]



We moved on to Marker Prairie, 90 acres privately owned, touching southern border of Blazing Star Prairie, co-managed by Missouri Prairie Foundation and MDC. Started restoration by removing all fescue. This is a "layered prairie" with an old and disturbance balance. Scrivners prairie grass indicates disturbance. Some plants found include: downy gentian, prairie flax (*Linim sercadum*, yellow flower), devil's shoestring (seed pods stick to clothes), lead plant, sky blue aster (leaves rough).

We brought our own lunch which we enjoyed as a picnic in the shade, and I talked about plant dyes and showed some examples of colors obtained during the dye workshop which I had offered the previous weekend at my studio for Hawthorn chapter. Several people bought my book *Nature Provides Dyes for Rainbows*.

Saturday afternoon we visited Hi Lonesome Prairie Conservation Area, managed by MDC. (I was told "Hi Lonesome" was a greeting cowboys gave each other when they met out on the prairie!). Also, right across the road Morton Prairie, privately owned by Doc Morton.



Many more plants were found - too numerous to recount here.

<<<<Photo of Morton Prairie by BE on previous visit.

Saturday evening was the board meeting. Then Sunday morning we went



to Friendly Prairie, managed by Missouri Prairie Foundation, where I learned that in good, stable soil, plants have a symbiotic relationship with each other. For example, during drought seasons, plants with deep tap roots draw up enough moisture to nurture their neighbors, and they can exchange various nutrients with each other.

I have not only learned a lot about plants, their habitat and their preservation, but have also met some wonderful, sharing, knowledgeable people who treat newcomers, like myself, as family. Casey Burks is one of those, who has shared a couple photos from each field trip for you. She is quite the photographer, taking 100s of photos on each trip.

<<<<Photo of *Solidago speciosa* with soldier beetles by Karen Albright.

Karen also sent this photo of members learning about prairie plants.



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
- Paper postal service (\$10)
- 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



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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**

As of July 2015 edition of the Petal Pusher printed on paper, sent by post, will cost an additional \$10 more than standard membership. 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.