



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 35, Number 10

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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> 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**. Please submit during the second half of every month.

This is the 35th year Hawthorn has supplied a newsletter to chapter members.

October 2020

## Future Activities Calendar

**Sad to say: all future group activities are cancelled for the foreseeable future.**

We just want everyone to be as healthy as possible.

This does not mean you must stay inside looking at a screen, or reading, or cleaning the closet for the third time. Put on your boots, sun hat, tick repellent, water bottle and **go explore! Go off trail!** *Go my Sons, burn your books. Buy yourself stout shoes. Get away to the mountains, the valleys, the shores of the seas, the deserts, and the deepest recesses of the Earth. In this way and no other will you find true knowledge of things and their properties. Peter Severinus, 16th. century Dane educator.*

**Go to a native plant nursery** to buy plants to expand your garden. *"...the psychological benefits to humans of green space are closely linked to the diversity of its plant life..." Jonah Lehrer*

**Getting exercise outside** will help your physical and psychological health while you can't have human contact. *"Those who contemplate the beauty of the Earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts."* Rachel Carson

**Take your frustration and aggression out on some aliens.** Small bush honeysuckle seedlings are very easy to recognize while most leaves are browning and very easy to pull – **go for it!** 20% Glyphosate can be used on larger stump treatment after 1 August.



## Announcements

**Lunch at RagTag Third Thurs—Cancelled until future notice**

Meet our group for lunch 11:30 at RagTag/Uprise, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway].

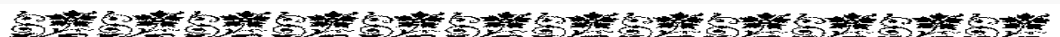


**Thanks to Nancy and Cindy for their submission this month!**



## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Many of you have expressed interest in helping to manage the myriad of native plant gardens around town and at Columbia Public Schools as a reason to get outside and a process of education. Doing this community service is applicable to your MMN re-pay requirements. Even if you have not had MMN training, working in these gardens will help you learn how to recognize good native plants from undesirables. Lea is the leader for this volunteer group [named Volunteer of the Month by City of Columbia this summer]. She knows where all the gardens are and offers a schedule, received from her by email, when group weeding parties occur. If you have confidence in your knowledge of species recognition, don't be shy! – ask Lea for a garden and do what you can to remove 'bad plants' when you want to work. If you need assistance with id and technique, go with a group several times before you strike out on your own. [langtree@gmail.com](mailto:langtree@gmail.com) call or text 864-7647.



## MPF gave MONPS the award for Plant Protector at the annual dinner 28 August

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7kC789mGYWM>

### GOLD LINKS

MDC Offers solutions to avoid large windows killing birds during fall migration. There are numerous products available to prevent bird strikes. The American Bird Conservancy's Bird-Friendly Windows page offers suggestions at

<https://abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/bird-friendly-window-solutions/>.

Those who have problem windows at home or at a business are encouraged to contact

[birdsafekc@burroughs.org](mailto:birdsafekc@burroughs.org) to discuss solutions.



[BE photo *Primula meadii*]

## Louise graced the latest Petal Pusher with extensive research on the Primrose family.

Read the whole article:

<https://monativeplants.org/wp-content/uploads/petal-pusher/PP-35-5-2020-09.pdf>

Excerpt:

*Primulaceae*, the Primrose family, has some twenty-eight genera with about 1000 species in the north temperate zone, many of which are alpine, according to Edgar Denison in Missouri Wildflowers, 6th edition. Despite its common name of Primrose family, it should not be confused with *Onagraceae*, Evening Primrose family, which is home to the familiar Missouri evening primrose (*Oenothera*

## MO Wildflower Nursery

If you are not on Merv's mail list, you did not get his fall sale flyer in your mailbox. Here are some highlights: **Now until 11 October** he is offering 10% discount on all potted plant sales. All sales over \$120 get the price reduced another 5%. Google Missouri Wildflower Nursery to get locations of remote plant sales, inventory and suggested garden plans.

Hours: M-S, 9-5; Sun noon-5. *Missourian* published a long article about Merv:

[https://www.columbiamissourian.com/news/local/missouri-wildflower-specialist-creating-a-lasting-inspiring-legacy/article\\_916a0a00-dd8a-11ea-ae3c-979dd87e6aad.html](https://www.columbiamissourian.com/news/local/missouri-wildflower-specialist-creating-a-lasting-inspiring-legacy/article_916a0a00-dd8a-11ea-ae3c-979dd87e6aad.html)

### Special State Webinar

MONPS sent an announcement by email about this zoom webinar. Since our fall field trip was canceled, we hosted a webinar instead! So sorry most of you missed this college level ecology lecture. ***Plants in Place: The Nature of Native. How Missouri's native plants came to be, what they tell us about the places they live, and what they tell us about ourselves.*** **The webinar was held at 6:00 pm on Friday, 25 Sept. Justin Thomas, Science Director at NatureCITE, provided us with an online presentation.** Some of the high points he explained are that all of our natural life within the artificial political boundaries of MO is based on geology and long term climate fluctuations: waves of ice in the north creating deep deposits, and eroding volcanic mountains in the south; cooler-wetter weather to the north, hotter-drier weather south.

A hypsithermal 8-5000ya was quite dry [google this], so it discouraged tree growth – opening the center of the continent to prairie type vegetation. In addition, at that time, humans found their way here and started modifying the continent. In truth man caused and still causes, damage and disruption which breaks all connectivity. If you don't know 'food web', it is important to look up because most of those interconnected relationships are broken now. Photosynthesis is the beginning of all energy on Earth; plants rule all [google photosynthesis]. Original food webs were very stable with little fluctuation. Missing units [extinct species] cause instability putting stress on the whole system. Like taking a wheel or fan belt from a vehicle.

Knowing the identification of plants will tell you how stable or damaged an area is. Orchids indicate peak stability; oaks and little bluestem indicate flexibility; *Monarda* and *Rudbeckia* indicate damaged or rehabilitated edge. 'Scab plants' are the natives trying to heal damaged land: pokeweed, knot weed, white asters, tall goldenrod, ragweed, crabgrass. **There are 2055 native species and 906 exotic species. It takes 1657 native species to maintain stability.** Temporary disturbances such as tornado, flood, buffalo wallow, fire are all things the ecosystems can heal in time. But many square miles of ag fields or hard-scape are irretrievable. This is why patches of natives need to be preserved and areas of moderate disturbance need to be improved if we are to maintain any semblance of stability.

Study plants, what their community is during or after human use – or not. Experience all kinds of nature – get out of town! Get off the path! Gain understanding, knowledgeable compassion, integrity. There might be 2 in 1000 who care enough to reach the deeper understanding to restore the natural landscape. Humans are not separate from Nature.

### MONPS Accomplishments June 2019 – Sept 2020

- Annual meeting was scheduled for June 2020, but cancelled due to covid19. Therefore Hudson Award, other state awards were not given and there was no change in officers.
- There was a fieldtrip to many wet areas in SE MO in Sept '19.
- This Sept we put a webinar together. Now that we know how, there might be more.
- Rex has scanned and digitized all the old paper minutes, species lists, field trip notes.
- MO Botanical Symposium was held in Rolla in November '19 with the highest attendance yet; hopefully there will be one in Nov '21.
- Board is working to clarify bylaws and generate a new logo for the T-shirts.
- *Missouriensis* vol 37 is on line; vol 38 should be posted by the end of this year.
- *Missouriplants.com* is open again and partially updated.
- MONPS FaceBook has 28,000 followers.

missouriensis). There is a second point of confusion related to *Primulaceae* that I will clear up later.

*Primulaceae* is the family that houses the much-loved spring ephemeral, *Primula meadii* (formerly *Dodecatheon meadii*) or shooting star. Supposedly, its flowers give off the aroma of grape juice and its root stock smells like canned corn beef. The entire plant is edible. Thomas Elpel in his book, *Botany in a Day*, says, "I like to pick the flowers and present them to whomever I am with, then gobble them down!"



[BE photo *Primula meadii*]

To learn more about **Deep Roots KC** or to view previous educational webinars, visit <https://deeprootskc.org/>.

**This link explains a lot of uses for common milkweed.** Hoping this article encourages more folks to plant milkweed!! [https://iamcountryside.com/growing/milkweed-plant-wild-vegetable/?utm\\_source=CountrySide+Master&utm\\_campaign=762e130b7b-Homesteading+7%2F30%2F20&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_90c3e5631e-762e130b7b-73517711](https://iamcountryside.com/growing/milkweed-plant-wild-vegetable/?utm_source=CountrySide+Master&utm_campaign=762e130b7b-Homesteading+7%2F30%2F20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_90c3e5631e-762e130b7b-73517711)

Amazing resource for **stratification instructions** <https://tomclothier.hort.net/page02.html>

## MONPS gives Plant Stewardship Award to Green Belt Land Trust

The mission of the Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-Missouri is to conserve the streams, forests, grasslands, and farmlands that represent our distinctive landscape for present and future generations.

Greenbelt was founded as the Greenbelt Coalition of Mid-Missouri in 1993 by Jeff Barrow, Marion Mace, Rebecca Schedler, Tom Lata, Mariel Stephenson, and Mark Stevenson, and various folks who have contributed at high levels include Fred Young, John George, Barbara Hoppe, Dee Dokken, Gene Gardner, Janet Hammen, Roger Still, Mike Powell, and Mike Hood. We accepted our first conservation easement in 1997 - the Marshall property on Rock Quarry Road - and our first nature preserve - Hinkson Valley Nature Preserve - in 1999, and the organization renamed itself in 2004.

Most of that work has been done since Mike Powell was hired in 2015. At that time, Greenbelt had three easements and two nature preserves, totaling about 98 acres. Now they protect 687.1 acres across 10 properties: 4 nature preserves which they own, and 6 private properties which are permanently conserved with conservation easements.

Greenbelt's biggest project started in December of 2018 when, with the assistance of an anonymous donor, Greenbelt acquired Hundred Acre Woods Nature Preserve: 102 acres of forests, woodlands, a stream with cliffs, and prairie in northern Boone County. Jim and Joanne Whitley owned the property for decades, managing it and protecting its considerable natural resources. After their passing in 2009 and 2010, the property was tied up in a legal dispute and neglected, allowing woody invasives to encroach badly on the property's 40 acres of prairie – the largest remnant prairie in Boone County. In 2019, Greenbelt removed woody invasives from approximately 25 acres of prairie, and reseeded with native seed collected locally. This was followed up with prescribed burns in the winter and spring of 2020. The plan this year is to continue that work, clearing invasives from the remaining 15 acres and spot treating any re-sprouts in the previously cleared areas. This work, led by John George, Greenbelt's Stewardship chair, and Mike Powell, Greenbelt's Executive Director, as well as a large cast of volunteers and contractors, will restore the prairie to a healthy, maintainable state, while continuing to protect the property's many other natural amenities.

## MONPS gives Plant Conservation and Preservation Award to Becky

Submitted by Nancy and Cindy

On Saturday 28 Sept 2020 Becky was awarded the State MONPS Plant Conservation Award. The Plant Conservation Award recognizes an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to the conservation or preservation of native plants or plant communities in Missouri. This award is given in recognition of various types of outstanding achievements or efforts, such as conservation planning, advocacy, or new ways of looking at old problems. Hawthorn members congratulate Becky on this outstanding achievement!!

In May, the Hawthorn Chapter submitted this award to the State MONPS, and Becky was chosen!!! A smaller group was tasked with the write up including Nancy Langworthy (Committee Chair), Lea Langdon, Glenn Pickett, Ann Wakeman, John George, Michelle Pruitt, Nadia Navarette-Tindall, Paula Peters, Cindy Squire and Sue Bartelette. The nomination was submitted on behalf of the Hawthorn membership.

The Hawthorn Chapter MONPS nominates Becky to receive the Missouri Native Plant Society Plant Conservation and Preservation Award.

Becky is an outstanding Missouri native plant devotee and advocate. She is a driving force in our local NPS chapter. Her depth of knowledge regarding native plants seems bottomless, and her drive to protect native species in Missouri is phenomenal. Her contributions to the preservation of native plants in Missouri is both immense and undeniable, and her relentless enthusiasm and generosity to spread the 'native plant gospel' has touched hundreds of citizens in the state.

## Wild Bee ID

[https://www.wildbeeid.org/?r=slt-eml-bck-a2e0&utm\\_source=sailthru&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=bck-04162019update&utm\\_term=](https://www.wildbeeid.org/?r=slt-eml-bck-a2e0&utm_source=sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bck-04162019update&utm_term=)

## Learn nature journaling

academy.allaboutbirds.org  
Subscribe to the Center for Plant Conservation's monthly newsletter:

<https://centerforplantconservation.us12.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=5111078c47821caea413b21ca&id=601d443b31>



National Geographic Magazine, Sept 2020, P15: The Cost of Harming Nature.

The more we stress and degrade nature the more animals shed disease. Then we interact with them and we are now living the results. Ecosystems with a full complement of species harbor less disease.



Spangled fritillary on *Asclepias purpureascens*  
BE photo

For the about 20 years Becky has worked enthusiastically to establish native plant communities in Mid-Missouri, and to educate the public about the importance of their role in preserving a healthy ecology for plants, animals, birds, and insects, and thus for us humans. In 2009 Becky helped to design and choose the right species for the first phase of the Native Plant Outdoor Lab at Lincoln University. At that time she was one of the very few native plant specialists with expertise in native plant garden design. Many of the plants used in this design were grown by her. She is an eloquent advocate for preserving local ecotypes and increasing the diversity of a range of habitats.

Becky seeks out opportunities to speak, teach, encourage, and share the importance of the role of native plants. She has regularly presented workshops for the public on native plant propagation to encourage interested citizens to successfully collect and germinate native seed. Becky has helped numerous fellow native plant enthusiasts with consultations and plant suggestions not only for prairie plantings but also aquatic and wetland plantings along with the best long-term maintenance practices, and is always a willing crew member for others who wish to conduct prescribed burns on their properties. She practices what she preaches: Becky has identified about 300 species of Missouri's native plants on her acreage; most have come from seed she collects locally. She periodically conducts prescribed burns and other conservation techniques on the variety of habitats there.

She helps local groups like Wild Ones as well as local institutions like the Ashland Library to establish and maintain roadside, school, and community native gardens. She has also worked with larger projects. In the past few years, Becky helped the Columbia Audubon Society establish a 15 acre prairie planting at the Bonnie View Nature Sanctuary, a 90-acre preserve for native plants and animals which is now used extensively by a nearby elementary school for place-based nature studies. She worked to make it possible for a local non-profit group, the Greenbelt Land Trust, to acquire a 100 acre property in northern Boone County that contains excellent examples of high quality prairie, woodland, and riverine forest communities so that it would be available for nature study and enjoyment. She continues to donate her efforts towards the stewardship of the property, including conducting two prescribed burns on it as well as donating some time in invasive species control.

Becky is always an advocate for native plants, seeking a wide range of opportunities to encourage, teach, and share the import role of native plants in the ecosystem. While heading up the MDC-Ecotype program, she developed the Native Plant Propagation Handbook in 2006. She was also involved in the development of the poster about wildflowers of Missouri roadsides published by MODOT and MONPS.

She encourages people to adopt native plants in their own gardens by teaching one-on-one at every opportunity possible either during native plant sales, by offering workshops and seminars and as the editor of the Petal Pusher and the Hawthorn Chapter-NPS monthly newsletter for 15 of the past 20 years. She stays abreast of news and is quick to share information on the latest issues and ideas related to native plants and biodiversity.

At her home, Becky maintains the Hawthorn Chapter's non-profit native plant nursery of very low cost, ecotype-appropriate, quality natives which the Chapter sells to the local community at several annual festivals; the proceeds of these sales go to support the Chapter's K-12 school grant program focused on native plants. She is tireless in using these sales to educate and advocate for natives, and in being available to advise the school groups.

Basically, as one Hawthorn member put it, "Becky is one heck of a [native plant] servant and there's an endless list of things that could be used to illustrate this."

The Hawthorn Chapter of the Native Plant Society

**Congratulates Becky as the MONPS Plant Conservation Award Winner of 2020!!!!**

Osage Prairie in Oct and Ozark overlook

BE photos



# Topics for This Years' Petal Pusher

the state MONPS newsletter

**You don't need to be an expert,** but if you have good repeatable experience as a naturalist on any of these subjects, you are welcome to offer your knowledge to the rest of us.

If we have members who are experts on any of these topics, Michelle Pruitt [on masthead] is willing to do an amateur proofread for you if that would be helpful.

**The submission deadline for the Nov/Dec issue is 20 Oct. ALWAYS - 20<sup>th</sup> of even numbered months. If you don't understand subjects, parameters, or submission format, contact Michelle Bowe, PP editor [MBowe@MissouriState.edu](mailto:MBowe@MissouriState.edu) .**

**Nov/Dec What's in a name? Common vs. Scientific**

**2021 Jan/Feb Ecoregions of Missouri**

Regular Recurring Columns:

**Conundrum Corner** Contributors needed!

**Invasive Tip of the Month** Tips to identify and eradicate invasives, with a different species in each issue. Contributors needed!

Other Recurring Columns: **Casey's Kitchen** Casey Burks  
**Name Change of the Month** Justin Thomas. Other volunteers welcome.

**Poetry Corner or Quotation Corner** Send suggestions for poems or quotes for inclusion. Note that for poems, we must have permission from the publisher.

**Where are we going** Features we will see on the next field trip. Malissa Briggler?

**And here's where you can become newsletter famous by submitting your questions: <https://monativeplants.org/ask-a-question>.**

**Ask a question** Questions from website, answered. Facilitated by Jerry Barnabee

## The following is NOT PARTISAN

It is VERY IMPORTANT to vote in this cycle. PLEASE DO NOT pass up this voting cycle because you are afraid of contracting covid19. There are several ways to do it safely.

You have a few days to register to vote if you are not yet. You need to search your county voter registration.

If you are afraid to go in person to your polling place, you need to search for options for voting thru your county courthouse. When you go to the polling place, wear a mask, use your hand sanitizer when going in and when leaving, maybe take your own marking pen. All polling places will monitor human movements.

**PLEASE JUST VOTE!**

# 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. There are opportunities to volunteer caring for native gardens in public places. We don't deliver printed copies by mail unless you insist. Please consider requesting email delivery; it saves us money for the Grant Program.

\_\_\_ Regular (\$16.00)\*

\_\_\_ Student (\$11.00)

\_\_\_ Contributing (\$26.00)\* designate chapter or state

\_\_\_ Paper postal service (\$10)

\_\_\_ State Lifetime (\$200) Might be raised for 2020

\_\_\_ 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:

**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**

**As of July 2018, Petal Pusher printed on paper in grayscale, sent by post, will cost an additional \$10 more than standard membership. Email delivery brings you color photos, and instant delivery. It saves natural resources, pollution, and MONPS and your money.**