



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 36, Number 1  
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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.

January 2021

## Future Activities Calendar Announcements

I am SO-o glad to see the light at the end of this extremely bad year on many fronts. Let's take a deep breath, and plan to start again. It won't be with the same old habits, but the possibility of 'a bit more' is there.

**For the foreseeable future we will have presentations and occasional meetings offered by Zoom. Our traditional meeting time is second Mondays at 6:30.**

### January chapter meeting scheduled

Our new chapter president, Elena, is inviting you to our traditional January chapter meeting: 11 Jan, 6:30pm for a quick review of minutes, treasurer report, and planning for 2021. You will receive a Zoom link the weekend before and a reminder the day of. Please tune in to add your ideas.

Nadia is working on a speaker for 8 February.



**Thanks to Michelle, Nadia, Dana, and Carol for their submissions this month!**

**Thanks to Emily for setting up links to our zoom presentations.**

**Thanks to Michelle for proof reading.**

**Thanks to Elena and Emily for volunteering to be our new President and Secretary.**



### 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].

Activities are on hiatus for the winter, so sign up now to know when and where to get started. 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. [langtrea@gmail.com](mailto:langtrea@gmail.com) call or text 864-7647.



### Bumblebee Bite Makes Plant Flower

*Note from National Geographic Oct 2020 P24*

If plants are not flowering when they emerge, Common European Bumblebees bite them to stimulate them to flower. When scientists tried to mimic the marks made by Bees, the plants bloomed a bit earlier, but not as early as the bee-bitten plants.

I heard a story about a man who had a fruit tree – for many years he cared for it to the best of his ability. It never bloomed to make fruit for him. He finally drove a small nail into the trunk; the tree bloomed profusely and made fruit. Some stress is important to make plants bloom – And To Make People Bloom.

## 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.

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

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

On a tea tag: Talking to plants is one way of talking directly to the Great Spirit" Rosemary Gladstar

## Heard on NPR

By Becky

I took notes from an interview with Robin Wall Kimmerer on NPR [in COMO: KBIA 91.3FM] Sunday 20 Dec. From her official site: "Robin Wall Kimmerer is a mother, scientist, decorated professor, and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She is the author of *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teaching of Plants* and *Gathering Moss: A Natural and Cultural History of Mosses*. She lives in Syracuse, New York, where she is a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Environmental Biology, and the founder and director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment."

[Ed. Note: Please accept the terseness of my notes = they are what I could catch.]

She believes in the personhood of all life.

Within plants there is an electrochemical gradient that responds to stimuli. "Brain?" not as we know it in animals [creatures that can move], but a type of communication and response.

We share a breath: We exhale carbon dioxide; they inhale the same and thru the magic of photosynthesis, they give us oxygen and food. Each of us needs the other to survive. We need to thank them for their gifts [cleansing our Home, and food for us – directly and indirectly].

White people communicate about all nature and inanimates using "it" as a neutral. Native Peoples treat all things of Earth as kin/brothers/mothers.

White people cause Earthly genocide with chemicals, plows, and bulldozers.

Native Peoples believe we are the youngest brothers of Creation. We are rambunctious toddlers trying to resolve our relationship with our Mother. In the process we make a mess. But we must learn to be healers.

If you want to assist Robin's cause with a purchase of one or more of her books, please do. If you cannot afford this purchase at this time, this is a gift of a free download: <https://pdfforall.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Braiding-Sweetgrass-PDFORALL.COM.pdf>

## Missouriensis -

### Hot Off the Press!

Sent from Dana our MONPS President.

Great news! Not only is 2020 almost behind us, but your newest issue of *Missouriensis*, the journal of the Missouri Native Plant Society, is now available! Volume 38 (2020) of *Missouriensis* can be accessed on our website at <https://monativeplants.org/publications/missouriensis/>.

This issue is packed with fascinating topics, including current research about a new (and colorful) lichen in Missouri, a new and potentially invasive *Viburnum*, new occurrences of two critically imperiled sedges, characters to help identify a confusing group of *Desmodium*, clarification of a moss nomenclatural issue, and more.

## Frostflowers

Observed by Nadia

White crownbeard (*Verbesina virginica*) and dittany (*Cunila origanoides*) produce frost flowers in our backyard. Here they are: *Cunila*, left; *Verbesina*, center and right.



Frost flowers are formed by sap at the base of stems when the air temperature is freezing but the ground is still warm, so the root system is still active [See in the center photo the pointed green shoot on the right side of the frost]. I think the 'flowers' this year have been more abundant and particularly spectacular because of the mild weather we had in fall and even now.

I have not been able to see these phenomena in other species, however, there are reports of frost or ice flowers on other native or non-natives. For more information check this website: <http://my.ilstu.edu/~jrcarter/ice/diurnal/stems/> Let's keep our eyes open, frost flowers may be easy to miss.

# 2020 Missouri Natural Areas Newsletter

Enjoy your 2020 Missouri Natural Areas Newsletter! This edition features articles examining Missouri's tremendous native plant diversity and its ecology. Sit back and enjoy the read as we look forward to spring's earliest wildflowers.

<https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/find-places-go-mo/natural-areas/natural-areas-newsletter>



## The Naturalist's Notebook used to record phenology is

available from [storey.com](http://storey.com) for \$19.95. It makes a lasting gift to yourself or a friend and launches the use of the 5 year natural history calendar. The people at Storey were kind enough to give me a free download of the five year calendar to print my own. I will use this when I finish my first 5 years. I am including the download as that may be all you are interested in having. It is a lot of pages, but remember it lasts 5 years and there is not a lot of ink on any page. Print it two sided. Punch holes put into a binder of some sort. Here is the link to the calendar:

[https://www.storey.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Naturalists\\_Notebook\\_Calendar\\_01.pdf](https://www.storey.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Naturalists_Notebook_Calendar_01.pdf)

These records are kept by  
Budburst on line

<https://budburst.org/>

They need your data!!!



# News from Stateside: MONPS Board 5 Dec

Synopsis by Michelle, Chapter Rep

Here are the "action items" for our chapter:

1. [Paula] Chapters need to **send their 2020 income/expense information to Bob Siemer before the end of the year.**
2. Board members were asked to assist Doug in **soliciting articles for future editions and finding someone to succeed him as editor of *Missouriensis*.** (I think he said he had been doing it for 27 years!)
3. Board members were asked to help spread the word about the **Hudson Grant**, as it was not awarded last year and there have been no applications as yet this year. Jerry Barnabee requested that **anyone who has sent information to schools, or has suggestions on where to advertise, share the documents and the contact information with Jerry Barnabee.** He would like to compile a good list of contacts and automate the process of soliciting applications. John Oliver volunteered to get the list WGNSS uses. Suggestion was made to contact past winners for contact suggestions, and also to reapply if still eligible.

## Informational highlights:

**Raising dues and possibly doing away with Life Memberships will be discussed at the spring meeting.** Alternatively, increasing the number of members or retaining more members (currently 80+ of ~300 state members are delinquent on their dues) would reduce the need to raise dues but there were not a lot of ideas for recruiting new members. Automating dues payments got the thumbs up and Jerry Barnabee is going to move ahead with that, so I believe that will help with membership retention.

**Liability Insurance.** A motion was made, seconded, and passed to drop the pursuit of liability insurance. [Dana had investigated prices and the discussion was that it was too expensive and not needed if the board does risk management by having people sign a waiver. I voted against the motion but I think I was one of only two nay votes.]

Virginia Native Plant Society "Nativars" Position Statement. John Oliver has responded to a question from VNPS, asking if MONPS has a position statement on the use of "nativars" in landscaping. Our administrators have shared their views on our Facebook page, but we have not issued a formal position statement. Becky Erickson sent background reading material to Dana, which she will share with the Board. We will decide at the spring meeting if we want to issue a statement.

2021 Meeting Dates and Locations. Dates were set. Locations selected for the 2020 field trips will be used, if it's determined that we can safely hold field trips. The decision on announcing dates for the tentative field trips will be made at the spring meeting.

Spring: April 17, 9:00 a.m., Board meeting only, via Zoom

Summer: June 25-27, Kansas City area

Fall: September 24-26, Alley Spring area

Winter: December 4, time TBD, Jefferson City Malissa will reserve a room for the December Board meeting in Jefferson City.



## Notecard from MPF/GN

Ronda Burnett, the MPF/GN Committee Chair sent us a thank-you card. The photo on the front is of an *Echinacea pallida* flower being nectared by a giant swallowtail butterfly.

"I would like to thank Missouri Native Plant Society for being a 2021 Grow Native Silver Sponsor. The program is stronger thanks to your support and staff are dedicated to helping you take advantage of all your member benefits."

Hawthorn has worked hard to acquire enough funds to donate at this level so our members may enjoy 'free' status to all MPF/GN educational activities when you state affiliation on registration form 'Hawthorn MONPS'. Please take advantage.

## Insecticides Found in Milkweed Samples

*Synopsis from Xerces Society Wings 43:2, Fall 2020, P30.*

They collected and tested 225 samples of milkweed from California Central Valley [ag field edges, wild areas, plants from nurseries, suburbs] during June of 2019. Retail nurseries and ag field samples had more insecticides. They found 64 different chemicals. 32% of the samples contained levels of harmful insecticides known to harm butterflies. Five were contained in 80% of all samples. Two which were found in 90% of the 225 samples: chloranthraniliprole and methoxyfenozide.

[Ed. Note] PLEASE!! Take this data into consideration when purchasing plants. If you don't get them from a reputable native plant dealer – please consider propagating natives from local-sourced seed or *in situ* [seed in ground].

## Links to two of our Chapter Autumn Zoom Presentations

Lea's Outdoor Native Plant Classrooms <https://1drv.ms/p/s!AjscdYpHSUkgccDCmcrYKAdf1sk?e=3YWx6d>

Becky's Pollinator ID & Garden Plants: <https://1drv.ms/p/s!AjscdYpHSUkgc3nMcng4S-pzkVU?e=qvUOJL>

(the NOTES show up in the bottom, but you might need to click "notes" at the bottom of the screen to see your verbiage).

## Sign up for MO Prairie Journal

<https://moprairie.org/mission/missouri-prairie-journal/>

## MPF/GN Educational Series for 2021

*From Carol Davit*

Hi Friends! Please see our upcoming webinars after the New Year. Please share with other groups who may be interested--Master Gardeners, Missouri Master Naturalists, and others. Thank you! Carol

Missouri Prairie Foundation & Grow Native! Webinars and Master Classes for the New Year

*Enjoy weekly online programming January through March 2021. [VIEW ONLINE.](#)*

December 2020—The Missouri Prairie Foundation (MPF) and its 20-year-old Grow Native! program have hosted 22 virtual webinars and master classes since May 2020 with more than 4,200 live participants.

Now to kick off 2021, MPF announces a new series of virtual learning opportunities with webinars and master classes planned for January through March of 2021. Every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m., participants can learn from a variety of speakers on topics such as native edibles, designing with native plants, building a bird sanctuary, and many others. Speakers include prairie and native plant experts from across the Midwest, including Scott Woodbury of Shaw Nature Reserve, authors Alan Branhagen and Heather Holm, Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall of Lincoln University, and more.

Webinars are free, 30-minute programs, with time for questions after the presentations. Master classes are more specialized, with presenters sharing 50-minutes of material, with time for questions after the presentations. Master classes are free to MPF members and Grow Native! professional members, and \$15 for non-members. Not a member? Join at [moprairie.org/membership/](https://moprairie.org/membership/) and attend all master class programming as a benefit of membership. Landscape architect continuing education credits are available for master classes and most webinars.

**MPF year in review is available:** an overview of 2020 and a calendar of future planned activities with beautiful photos <https://moprairie.org/>

## Robins and Cohorts Carry Lyme

*Synopsis from AUDUBON Magazine Fall 2020 P16*

It is well known that white-footed mice, deer, rabbits spread ticks and Lyme disease to our pets, farm animals and to us. When I picked up Lyme near Truman Reservoir in 1995, the MD I consulted said "We don't have Lyme in MO." Nine years later a more open-minded MD tested and treated me.

Ecologists in California reported robins with Lyme in 2015. This prompted more researchers in Indiana to check their robin populations and other common birds for tick diseases. Most of the birds who forage on the ground have ticks and a reservoir for tick diseases. Most of these birds migrate short or moderate distances. Therefore tick diseases are more cosmopolitan than thought 30-20 years ago.

One of our local members was diagnosed with Lyme last summer. Do Not be Deterred or Afraid to venture into the wild. Just go forewarned and forearmed. Wear clothing **pretreated** with insecticide; use DEET on skin the full length of your legs and torso; wear pale clothing so you can see ticks. From my experience: Lyme is like herpes: once contracted = forever.

## Wild Birds Carry Viruses

*Note from AUDUBON Magazine Fall 2020 P28*

Remember West Nile Virus from about 2003-10? It took out many of the Corvids, chickadees, and titmice. I picked up a dead crow and a bluejay at the time. And all health departments were broadcasting warnings about using mosquito repellants and dumping anything that could possibly hold a thimble of water. Really doesn't matter because if a mosquito can't find water, she lays eggs in wet soil.

The note above states another caution against tick-borne diseases carried by ground feeding birds. We have been plagued by "bird flu" since ancient Greeks made medical notes; modern pandemic source detection was started by WHO in 1957 to track down an unknown host. Since then many avian flu strains have popped up globally. Very specific genetic explanations are given in the article on P28.

The point is that Humans interact closely with all animal populations now that our species number has reached a maximum that can be sustained within this closed system = Earth. The more Humans encroach on wild areas the more we stress the wildlife giving them compromised immune systems. Then they pass on their viruses to us. We are experiencing the effects now. I know. This time from bats.

# 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 Jan/Feb issue is 20 Dec.**

**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) .**

## 2021 Jan/Feb Ecoregions of Missouri

The theme for the January issue will be Ecoregions of Missouri; Mike Leahy has agreed to write for it.

- Focus on a Plant Family could be used every year. Louise Flenner of Hawthorn chapter wrote a good article on this topic in 2019. Would be good to study that as a template.

- Potential Emerging Invaders. Someone from MoIP as contributor; Malissa Briggler volunteered. Any one of us could study invasive plants; MPF Journal featured invasives during 2020. Just search 'invasive plants' and pick one to report on.

- Favorite Natural Areas. Suggested to also have chapters solicit articles from their members.

- Historical Botanists. Rex Hill volunteered. Becky Erickson to look up articles by Rusty White in old Hawthorn chapter newsletters. Justin Thomas to do interview.

- Better Know a Genus. Dana and Andrew Braun volunteered. These are species accounts. You observe/research a species or genus and describe the whole life cycle including preferred habitat and vectors/predators.

### 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.

# 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!**

How were you attracted to join MONPS?

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.**