



Volume 38, Number 12

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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. We would like to read about announcements, impressions, species accounts, photos, poems, links to scientific articles or other creative nature writing **from you, too**. Send submissions before the 26<sup>th</sup> of every month to:

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PO BOX 496

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This is the 38th year Hawthorn has supplied a newsletter to chapter members. All

newsletters since 2008 are archived on our website.

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<http://columbianativeplants.org>

December 2023

## Future Activities Calendar

**Our traditional meeting time is second Mondays at 6:30.**

**And social lunches are third Thursdays 11:30.**

**Saturday 2 Dec 10am, MONPS State board** planning meeting by ZOOM. If you have any interest in learning firsthand what State plans to do next year, this is your chance to eaves drop **and offer suggestions** from the comfort of your home.

Topic: MONPS Board Meeting

Time: Dec 2, 2023 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

**Join Zoom Meeting**

Meeting ID: 890 0486 6884 Passcode: 209005

**Friday 8 Dec, 10am to 3pm** [see attached flyer] Nadia is offering her greenhouse space at LU for wreath making and other holiday creativity. It is a large space where we can make a mess and socialize with several similar people. Before you 'clean up' your garden, cut stems, leaves and fruit of plants that could be attractive in a dried arrangement to bring and share; **shake out seed**. If you want to make a wreath, you need to bring a base, craft wire, large pins, clippers, ribbon, maybe a glue gun if you have one. Some of us will bring cedar branches. **Please DO NOT bring tall goldenrod or multiflora rose hips!** There will be food to share; please bring something [or not is ok] – nutritious and homemade is best.

**Monday 11 Dec. This meeting is important because we must elect officers.** Zoom opens at 6 for socializing: **Join Zoom Meeting** Nadia offers a program: Native Landscapes Through the Seasons. Meeting agenda is on separate attached document. Instructions for voting will be sent to all chapter members 7 or 8 Dec; please respond accordingly.

**Thurs 21 Dec 11:30 am Lunch: take a winter break to be with friends for an hour!** **First Watch Restaurant** at Stadium and Worley with plenty of free parking on the NW side of Columbia. We use a private room away from the main dining room. Click on that link to see the location on a map. This is an opportunity to get to know us, share nature stories, swap seeds, and bring pots back to Becky for the nursery.

## Hunting Season Dates

Archery season is still open until January. Get more information on regulation changes and other details for deer hunting from MDC's *2023 Fall Deer & Turkey Regulations and Information* booklet, available where permits are sold and online at [mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer](http://mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer).

We all enjoy walks in wild areas during the warmer winter days. Please be respectful of hunters by walking during midday hours and wear a lightweight iridescent vest [orange or yellow]. We want human hunters to take as many deer as they legally can because there are not enough natural predators to keep deer numbers at a healthy level. Too many deer spread many diseases. Too many deer eat many native plants into local extinction.

State parks are usually devoid of hunters, but check ahead at the park office to see if a managed hunt is scheduled for the dates you want to go there to explore.

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## Membership Renewals

The MONPS state webmaster, Jerry Barnabee, has built a system to remind you thru a personal email that the time has come to renew your membership dues. Please-Please pay attention to this notice which will come to you near the anniversary of the date you joined. So if you joined, as an example in October or May, that is the time you will get your reminder. Jerry provides a link to PayPal. I believe there is an option to pay for 1 to 5 years and at whatever donation level you deem appropriate. In truth: we welcome your renewal any time you remember.

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## Fireflies are vanishing but you can help protect them

Excellent article in NatGeo Newsletter By Amy McKeever Published 1 June 2023

Retrieved 29 July 2023:  
Experts offer tips on how to make a home for the beloved bioluminescent insects in your own backyard—from creating a microhabitat to keeping your lights off.

[From editor:] Maybe 8 years ago my woods lit up like a wonderland light show for almost a week. I never remember this display before or since in 70 years. Wish I knew the recipe – maybe the rain cycle and perfect temperature.

## MPF/GN Webinars

Be sure to check on the MPF/GN site [under Activities](#) for webinars before **alternate Wednesday afternoons at 4pm**. Our chapter pays to be a member so these on-line activities are free to you as a member. However, if you feel they are giving you a good education, a donation is welcomed. [Next MPF/GN webinars 4pm The MPF/GN newsletter will remind you of these events: Sign Up!](#)

--Adopt a [Regal Fritillary Butterfly](#) or a [Brown-Belted Bumble Bee](#) and help protect prairie.

The last webinar was 22 November. It was a fabulous discussion on management of woodlands and glades including use of fire. Even if you cannot attend at 4pm on Wednesdays, if you register, you will be sent the link to review the webinar when you have time - with additional resources. If you would like to revisit any parts of this webinar, or were unable to attend live, the entire recording is available on our YouTube channel, [view here](#). Our free webinars are posted publicly on [our YouTube channel here](#). There were far too many additional resources to include here. I will send you the whole message on request.

The next webinars and activities offered are:

- Dec 6 - [MPF Webinar: Honduras: A Natural Haven for Migratory Birds](#)
- Dec 20 - [MPF Webinar: Challenges and Opportunities for Conserving Rare Grassland Plants](#)
- Jan 3 - [MPF Native Grassland & Woodland Management Training](#)
- Feb 8 - [Short-Eared Owl Hike at Shawnee Trail Conservation Area](#)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We want to announce our deepest gratitude to Louise** for her many years of dedicated service keeping all the books and printed materials offered at our booth organized and up to date. Carol-Leigh has offered to take this job. **She is very active with Weavers Guild and River Relief, so would like an assistant to help only a few days per year.**  
Call her for details: 573-874-2233.

**Thank you** to Elena, Becky, Lea, Neil, Cindy, Paula and Cheryl-Ann for submissions for this newsletter. There would not be so much good information and history if it were not for you. We would love to post thoughts and ideas from YOU, yes YOU reading this, too.

## Chapter Activity Reports from Elena and Cindy

*Photo of Lea teaching courtesy of Cheryl-Ann*



Several members of the Hawthorn Chapter gathered at Mill Creek Elementary School on November 16, 2023, to participate in a workday organized by Lea to work on the school's prairie. Although it was a cold day, it was sunny; we came prepared for the weather, and the work kept us warm.

Lea brought all the necessary equipment including bags, clippers, and gloves. She organized the students of two classes into groups and assigned each volunteer to work with a small group. Some groups of students helped cut down and bag aggressive tall goldenrod (*Solidago altissima*) to keep it from taking over the whole prairie because of its rhizomatous nature. Other groups gathered native grass seeds to plant elsewhere while a different group got to spread seed of *Solidago rigida*, *Symphyotrichum novaeangliae*, *Silphium terebinthinaceum*, and several *Liatris* species onsite.

The energy and enthusiasm of the students was inspiring. If you haven't participated in one of Lea's work sessions before, I hope you will think about joining us for one of the upcoming volunteer sessions. Upcoming opportunities include **Friday Dec. 1st 1-3 Mill Creek Elementary**, and **Dec 4 1-3:30 at Blue Ridge Elementary** [details on next page].

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## Personal Service from Xerces

I wanted to let you know about an exciting new benefit available to you, to say thank you for helping us protect invertebrates. As a Xerces donor, you can now [request a call](#) from a Xerces Ambassador. Ambassadors are expert volunteer conservationists who volunteer with Xerces to share their knowledge and support Xerces members.

Whether you want to talk about creating habitat in your yard, bumble bee ID, or brainstorming ways to engage your community further, requesting a call from a Xerces Ambassador is a complimentary service we hope you'll enjoy. Consider it your personal invertebrate hotline.

You can [request a call here](#) and an Ambassador will call you at a time that works for you.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Best,  
**Melissa Manuel**, Engagement Specialist 503-468-6602 (she/hers)



[Protecting Pollinators](#) [Conserving Endangered Species](#) [Reducing Pesticide Use & Impacts](#)

## Paula found a new Wildflower ID site!

People who need color photos will like this one. [I prefer line drawings because

## Greenbelt Land Trust Partnership

*Offered for consideration by Elena, our chapter president*

See the October Hawthorn newsletter for explanation of partnership. See the attached secretary's minutes for decision.

## Challenge MONPS

See the October Hawthorn newsletter for explanation of partnership. See the attached secretary's minutes for decision.

## LEARNING AND SHARING THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

*Offered by Lea*

Volunteering to help at one of the many native plantings around the Columbia area in parks, trails, and in local schoolyards can be a service to the community, but it can also be a great way to learn more about native plants, as well as about invasive species which are becoming a significant threat to our ecosystems. From pollinator gardens and rain gardens to prairie, woodland, and trail-side areas, there are many different types of local plantings, and they all require some maintenance in order to thrive and remain useful for wildlife and as places of learning.

Lea helps coordinate volunteer opportunities in these areas, by collecting and sending out a bi-weekly (or so) email listing of upcoming coordinated gardening efforts. Lea organizes many of them; some are posted by others. At schools, we sometimes work with students, doing "Service-Learning". Other times we work without students. We help maintain habitats and gardens so that students can come in to plant, or explore the wildlife that is there.

Many Native Plant Society members attend these work parties. By working alongside other native plant enthusiasts, you can learn by doing, and you can ask questions or share what you know with others. What's that plant? What conditions does it thrive in? When should it be planted? What's the problem with invasive species and what can we do about them? Etc.

If you have questions, or would like to join in these activities contact Lea to get on her email list. [Leaslist@gmail.com](mailto:Leaslist@gmail.com) or text or call 573-864-7647.

**Tentatively, weather dependent: Friday Dec. 1st 1-3 Mill Creek Elementary**, 2200 Nifong Blvd. We will be working on invasive species in their prairie. Their prairie is beyond the playground to the rear of the building and down a short path thru the woods. We generally meet in the parking lot, on the south side of the school.

**Sat. Dec. 2nd 1-4 pm Trinity Presbyterian Church**, on the corner of Rollins and Maplewood. Honeysuckle work with boy-scout troop.

**Monday Dec. 4th 1:15-3:15 Blue Ridge Elementary**, 3700 Woodland Drive. **Note: This is a school with a large population of underprivileged students**, so it would be good if we could give extra energy to helping maintain their prairie planting. Park on Woodland, beyond the school, and you will see the prairie down the hill. We will be cutting and treating tree seedlings (some of which have gotten rather large) in their prairie planting.

**Mon. Dec. 4th 3-5 PM Kiwanis, East side**, honeysuckle work  
**Thank you for your interest in these volunteer opportunities.**  
**I look forward to seeing and working with you.**

--Lea, 573-864-7647



If you haven't ever done so, please come by and admire the Hawthorn Adopt-A-Spot at the NW corner of Providence and Nifong in Columbia just behind the city recycling bins north of Planet Fitness.

**As flowers ripen into seeds, you are welcome [encouraged!] to collect from this garden for your own.**

Cindy has been organizing work and clean up days at the spot for several years and we are seeing the amazing results from all the hard work today things are looking good!



they show better details of field characters.] Hope this helps you learn different species and their preferred habitats. With So Many species to cover – it will forever be a work in progress. It seems a good chart on asters and goldenrods is almost complete.

Use this to compliment MissouriPlants.com [ In bulletin board below]

### Excerpt from the June PP

## The organization of MissouriPlants.com

is designed to accommodate users ranging from neophytes to experts. For the latter, there is a full listing of species links according to scientific name, and also a listing organized by family. For the beginner, there are pages organized by flower color and leaf arrangement, similar to the organizational concept of most wildflower books. These links will quickly transport the user to the relevant species page. All species pages maintain a navigational pane at the left to facilitate movement within the site. It is truly So Simple!



Soldier beetle

## Let's Support Our State MONPS

*Submitted by Cindy, our chapter representative*

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on what we are grateful for. I am grateful for the people of State MONPS and what they volunteer to do for us:

MONPS publishes a journal - Missouriensis  
MONPS sends you a bimonthly state newsletter - The Petal Pusher  
MONPS provides student grants - The Hudson Research Grants  
MONPS plans and invites the members to 3 field trips a year with guest speakers  
MONPS maintains a website - [Monativeplants.org](http://Monativeplants.org)  
MONPS maintains a Facebook page answering 1000's of questions a year (42,000 followers)  
MONPS gives awards to many in the plant community both volunteers and researchers  
MONPS gives to Grow Native, Missouri Prairie Foundation, and Missouri Botanical Symposium  
MONPS helps maintain a native plant database [missouriplants.com](http://missouriplants.com)  
MONPS hosts an iNaturalist competition with prizes.  
MONPS has a marketplace for clothing, hats, bags on [Monativeplants.org](http://Monativeplants.org)

All of this is accomplished with 415 state members. 112 are lifetime members. Only \$8 of these memberships goes to the state. This is a tiny budget! **I think we should all help to further this good cause!!!**

### Support Native Plant Research and Botany education by giving to the Hudson Fund.

I was a struggling student in the 1980's. I got a \$50 scholarship which I put on my resume. It helped with rent (in the 1980's), and it helped me get a job. A small to large donation can help another aspiring student reach success. Help students with a Hudson Fund donation.

### Support the state educational mission by giving extra to MONPS above your dues.

There are so many benefits that you are receiving, let's help pay for them. The budget is so tight, dues are so low. Show that you appreciate this worthy cause as much as I do!!

### Giving is easy!

**Make a donation on the website**, buy a State clothing item or send in an extra check to:

Missouri Native Plant Society  
PO Box 440353  
St Louis MO 63144-4353

I will personally be sending an extra check and hoping you will also. I am grateful to each of you for your donations!

## Diary of Milkweed Observations, Jackson County, Mo 2023

*Text and photos submitted by Neil Bass*

My 1.1 acre of natives in my "yard" near Grain Valley MO, planted about 17 years ago, has over 30 native species. Among these are 4 species of milkweeds that I have documented growing in the planting. These are common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), purple milkweed (*Asclepias purpurascens*), spider milkweed (*Asclepias viridis*) and swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*). Over time I have watched the planting grow and change and have watched monarch butterflies come here to nectar, seen caterpillars feed on the milkweed in the planting, and seen new monarchs fly away.

This year I decided to watch the monarch-milkweed cycle more closely. My observations are neither systematic nor random, but are anecdotal. Most of my observations are after 6pm while walking my dogs around the perimeter of the planting. When in doubt about my identification skills, I contacted an entomologist graduate student at Fort Hays State U, thank you Isaac Fox.



Unfortunately, I did not record the date I spotted the first milkweed plant emerge but in Missouri they usually start growing sometime in April. I did record the first small monarch <<< **caterpillar** I observed on June 1. The common milkweed flowers were not blooming yet. By June 10, I noted a margined soldier beetle (*Chauliognathus marginatus*) and a milkweed beetle (*Tetraopes tetraphthalmus*) and the common milkweed was starting to bloom.





Milkweed beetle



Cicada and common milkweed pod

If there is anything different you want to participate in, please give us ideas for new activities.

I continued to see a few monarch caterpillars through June. By early July the purple milkweed was blooming, attracting a bumble bee, either a *Bombus impatiens* or *B. griseocollis* on a purple milkweed flower, a honey bee (*Apis mellifera*), and a flower weevil (*Odontocorynus* sp.) on a blackberry flower. Throughout July monarchs were regular visitors as well as a **seven-spotted lady bug**>>> (*Coccinella septempunctata*) munching on some orange oleander aphids (*Aphis nerli*) later in July.

By August, blooms were subsiding and curled spiny seed pods were developing on common plants; smooth slender pods on purple. On the first of August, I started finding 'unexpected cyncia' (*Cyncia collaris*) caterpillars on the milkweed plants. Cicadas (*Neotibicen* spp.) also began showing up this month. I found one 'dog day cicada' on a common milkweed. Once again, small monarch caterpillars appeared. Apparently a new group of monarch larvae were hatching that had been deposited by the adults seen in July. By the end of August, many milkweed plants were beginning to drop leaves, eastern Jackson County was in a drought at the time. Seed pods began to split open.



August monarch

Milkweed plants continued to decline in September. I counted and observed 96 milkweed stems by this point in the season, most of them being common and a few being purple. I didn't notice either spider or swamp with blooms; I suspect the second year of drought is the culprit.

Insects continued to use the plants undergoing senescence and plants that retained some green leaves. By mid-month only 16 plants still had green leaves and a week later that number had dwindled to 4 common milkweed plants. Insects seen on the milkweed in September were monarch caterpillars and butterflies, milkweed bugs (*Oncopeltus fasciatus*), ants, oleander aphids, and some grasshoppers.

As of October 11, no green leaves could be found on any of the milkweed plants in the planting. Many of the plants had seed pods, some not opened yet and others in various stages of splitting and releasing seed. After looking at all the stems I found only two milkweed bugs. When collecting and then opening a split seedpod from near these two milkweed bugs, six more bugs were found hiding in the dark behind the shriveled seeds of this pod. I hate to think of how many other bugs may have been eating seed in the nearly 100 stems at this site.

#### Second instars of milkweed bugs >>>

I saw the first monarch caterpillars on June 1 and continuing until September 10. I saw monarch adults first on July 3 and lastly on Sept 23. I also noted eleven other insect species utilizing this small group of plants. Milkweed bugs were the insect I noticed using the milkweed for the longest time: first on June 10 and lastly on Oct 11. In total at least 12 different insect species were observed using milkweeds in this planting that is in a fescue dominated lawn environment of the Kansas City exurbs.

The milkweed plants I noted daily provided enjoyment for me and my family as they added to the natural flower bouquet of our yard. They also provided for some of the needs of at least 12 different species of insects throughout the growing season.

Dave Young recently wrote in the Missouri Prairie Journal that he and his wife have watched many generations of monarchs, "find its way to our native garden" and "eat its way through numerous milkweed leaves," and "This year, ... our milkweeds fed only one caterpillar." So small gardens and plantings are oases that provide habitat and help contribute to the amazing life cycle of monarchs and benefit other species at the same time.

*As with trees the best time to plant a milkweed was yesterday but today is still not too late.*

AW photo of milkweeds and sunset



Paula wants to share this good [information on identification of ticks](#), which ticks carry which diseases, and how to tell how long a tick has been attached by the size of the tick. All important information for the doctor to know if you are sick.

## **Nature really is good medicine.**

### **Science can explain why.**

By Stacey Colino.

Photographs By Lucas

Foglia. Pub July 6, 2023.

Retrieved from NatGeo

Newsletter 28 October 2023

Reduced blood pressure and improved cognition and mental health are just a few of the documented benefits of spending time in “green” and “blue” spaces.

## **Very Bad Critter: Oriental Mantis**



As leaves fall off sticks, look for blobs of tan foam about the size of a golf ball. These are oriental mantis egg cases. Adults are bigger than hummers; [they eat ALL insects and small birds.](#) PLEASE! Gather these for destruction: put all into a jar for at least a year so when they hatch they will die. Or pour something volatile on them and burn them. Do not ever throw them whole into a landfill.

## **STOP Planting Trees. WHAT?!**

This picture story gives the bottom line facts about which kind of landscape conversion is more of a solution to carbon offset than others.

This fact was proven nearly 30 years ago: **native grasslands are a better carbon sink than forests.**

Carol [CEO of MPF/GN] was excited to have this concise information all in one paper.

## **Indigenous Gardens Cultivate Healing**

By [Rosalyn LaPier](#) & [Grace Maria Eberhardt](#) & [Andy Stec](#)

YES Magazine published Nov 9, 2023

A walk through any college campus in the United States looks more or less the same: a large open quad with a well-manicured lawn, a historic main hall made of brick and covered in ivy, mature deciduous non-native trees, and colorful flower beds framing the periphery. . . .

... Advocates are calling for places of learning to instead be aligned with Indigenous values and aesthetics. The demand for meaningful action has emerged and reverberated throughout institutions of higher education across the country.

“When I think of decolonizing, I think about exercising ways of Indigeneity,” says [Sidney Fellows](#), a Shoshone-Bannock and Chippewa-Cree Master of Science student at the University of Montana. “For me, that means maybe less development, or focusing resources on native plants, maybe creating more areas where we can access foods or things like that when we’re in these college spaces.”

Your article could be here!

## Topics for This Years' Petal Pusher

the state MONPS newsletter

### Petal Pusher Topics for 2023

Due date	Pub Date	Theme	Contributors
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Dec 20	Jan 1st	Winter Botany: Solicit articles from WGNSS members on winter plant ID. (buds, rosettes, etc.)	
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Send submissions attached in Word format.

Send photos attached separately in jpg format.

To: Pam Barnabee [pamela.barnabee@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.barnabee@gmail.com)

**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 curious about any of these topics, Michelle Pruitt [[michelle.pruitt@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.pruitt@gmail.com)] is willing to do an amateur proofread for you if that would be helpful. Send to her early!

**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).**

- Potential Emerging Invaders. **Have you seen a new plant invader?** 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. This means YOU can write about your favorite Natural Area

- Better Know a Genus. **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 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, to man our information booth at events such as Earth Day and Bradford Plant Sale, and to care for native gardens in public places.

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Missouri Native Plant Society  
Hawthorn Chapter

How were you attracted to join MONPS?

Membership runs from the date you join. You must be a member of the State Missouri Native Plant Society (MONPS) in order to join a chapter. You may send state and chapter dues to our membership chair [presently vacant], or sign up on the MONPS site and pay by Paypal.

Please check membership category you desire:

**Minimum required annual membership per household is \$10 for students or \$15 for non-students [state+chapter]**

\*These amounts include both state and chapter dues

\_\_\_\_ Student \$10.00\*

\_\_\_\_ Goldenrod \$15.00\*

\_\_\_\_ Sunflower \$30.00\*

\_\_\_\_ Blue Bell \$55.00\*

\_\_\_\_ Blazing Star \$105.00\*

\_\_\_\_ Surcharge for paper state Petal Pusher by mail (+\$10.00)

\_\_\_\_ Chapter only \$5.00 – this option is for members who already belong to State and another chapter

\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid

Make checks payable to:

**Missouri Native Plant Society**

**Mail payment and this form to:**

**Diane Privitt**

**3810 Koala Dr**

**Columbia MO 65202**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter newsletters and messages will be sent by email