



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 23, Number 2

February 2008

## Hawthorn Chapter

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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send your submissions to:

#### Newsletter Editor

Becky Erickson  
573-657-2314  
[beckyerick@socket.net](mailto:beckyerick@socket.net)

## Future Activities

**February:** Impromptu hikes, weather permitting. Please call Paula if you want to be placed on the call list. 474-4225

**February 21:** Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts! 11:30 am at Felini's, 700 E. Broadway. All are invited.

**February 24:** Newsletter items are due.

**March 10:** Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Dorie Draper will present a program on her botanical drawings, which are mostly natives.

**March 22:** Hike to Jim Whitley's property to see the Wild Leeks and Snow Trillium. Meet at the MDC parking lot on College Ave at 11:00 am to carpool, or at Heuer's Country Store at 11:30 am. We plan to have lunch at Heuer's and then proceed to Jim's property. You will need hiking boots and a walking stick for the rough terrain.

**April 4 – 6:** State Board Meeting. Joint meeting with the Arkansas NPS. Lodging in Harrison, Arkansas. (What an opportunity to see the Arkansas Ozarks in spring!!)

**April 12:** Native Plant Sale – Bradford Farm 9 – 12

**April 13:** Tree planting day at Stadium site (See instructions inside.)

Alternate day (in case of inclement weather) – April 27

**April 20:** Earth Day. 12 to 5:00 – please plan to help with our booth.

**May 4:** Hike to Moniteau Creek CA. This new area is only 7 mi N of Rocheport in Howard Co. Spring in a sedge meadow means you need comfortable mud boots.

**May 12:** Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Becky Erickson will give a program about the natural history of fire on the continent, the cumulative research of natural community response to seasonal fires, and a brief explanation on how to burn a small area.

**May 17:** Hike to Auxvasse Glade in Callaway Co. The access to this spectacular area is through private property so John George has offered to be our guide.

**June 20 – 22:** State Board Meeting. Squaw Creek NWR and other sites, lodging in Mound City, MO

**June 26:** Quail and Native Plant Field Day – Bradford Farm – please plan to help us with our booth.

For more information contact Paula at 573-474-4225

## Your Contributions Needed for Website Update

Webpage address:

<http://columbianativeplants.missouri.org/>

(Ed. note:) This is so exciting! Judy Ward has offered to update our website from her home in San Diego. Here are her instructions for your submissions:

I am updating our webpage and would like to expand the photograph section. If you are interested in sharing your digital photos of plants, landscapes, chapter activities, etc., send them to me via email ([wardjud@gmail.com](mailto:wardjud@gmail.com)). I prefer to receive the photographs as jpegs (.JPG extension) but can handle other file types. I haven't decided the best "size" for the photographs, so just send the photos in file sizes greater than 300 kilobytes and I can make them smaller to fit the website's needs. If you are uncertain about the format, email me or just send one photo and I will provide you with feedback.

I am currently planning to organize the photos into the following categories: Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, and Chapter Activities. With your photo, please include information such as date, name of plant (if applicable), location (if applicable), and photographer, as well as the expected category. If you have suggestions about the photograph section or its categories, I welcome input.

**Thanks, --Judy Ward**

Webpage address:

<http://columbianativeplants.missouri.org/>

### **February 21:**

**Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!**

**11:30 am at Felini's,  
700 E. Broadway.**

**We now meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday  
of the month.**

**All are invited; please join us**

## Secretary's Minutes

*Submitted by Jean Graebner*

Members turned out in larger-than-average numbers to elect Nancy Langworthy president and Vanessa Melton vice president at the regular meeting of Hawthorn Chapter on Monday, January 14. Jean Graebner, secretary, substituting for Nadia Navarrete who was out of town, acted as president. She first asked members to decide whether or not to count several votes by absentee ballots. Unanimous consent was given to accept the absentee votes.

Following the election, Dennis Stegall, Camera Manager at Columbia Photo, gave us an extremely helpful short course in camera techniques, especially tailored to photographers interested in getting the best pictures of landscapes and flowers. His presentation provided lots of answers to problems such as how to judge the optimum angle for best composition, how to use some of the special features of digital cameras to overcome excessive light, poor light, wind movement or focus problems and how to use the variations in depth of field (the area in focus) to best advantage. He illustrated his various points with appropriate examples from his obviously very large collection of photographs of flowers, including both detailed close-ups and landscape scenes.

A short business meeting followed the photo presentation.

Paula Peters reported that former president Judy Ward, who now lives in San Diego, California has offered to continue to update our website. She has already begun to correct out-of-date scheduling and has said that she would like to start a photo gallery on the website. **Instructions on how to submit pictures are explained in Judy Ward's article this month.** Denny Donnell moved that the Chapter archive the newsletter on the web; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously. (ed. note: To access our website enter - [columbianativeplant](http://columbianativeplant) - on Google and select the first link or <http://columbianativeplants.missouri.org/>.)

Becky Erickson gave an update on the wildflower planting along Stadium Blvd. She has planned to plant 50 each of Redbud, American plum and Deciduous holly. The young trees would not have a good survival rate unless protected from deer and marmots by cages. She said a meeting would be called for members to get together and make the cages. (ed. note: A complete report on this project and all that was accomplished in the past year is in the January 2008 newsletter.)

There was a call for field trip requests from the field trip committee. They would like to know any sites, old and new, that you would like to visit and the month or even precise date you would like to go so they can be scheduled.

The meeting was adjourned and members visited while enjoying fresh coffee and homemade cookies.

## Tree Planting Day at Stadium Site

Becky Erickson 657-2314

There have been 150 bare-root twigs ordered from the MDC nursery at Licking for the Stadium Project site. Few of these will be over two feet tall. A crew of people will be needed to plant these twigs to replace the bush honeysuckle removed from under the treeline. If the trees are delivered early in April, the best planting date will be 13 April. If the weather is bitter cold again in early April or the trees don't show up before the 13th, we will make another go of it on 27 April. We will need water. So if you buy cat litter in 2 gallon jugs, please save the jugs to fill with water to carry to the site.

We will be making chicken wire cages for the trees some time in March according to the weather and a day when a few of us have time. So watch your email for that announcement.

## Members Burn Field



Ann Wakeman, Becky Erickson and Will Marshall safely completed a controlled burn at Ann Wakeman's house on 16 Jan 08. Conditions were dry and breezy so the fire was controlled in strips. The burn was complete on the 2.5 acres in about 3 hours and deemed a success! After the dead vegetation was cleared, Ann was able to increase the species diversity with seed of native species new to the field.

## Our Leader Achieves State Award

Submitted by Jean Grabner

Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, who served as Hawthorn Chapter president for five years from 2002 until 2007 (except Judy Ward's term in 2006), has received the prestigious Master Conservationist Award from the Missouri Department of Conservation. The award was presented on January 31 at the annual Missouri Natural Resources Conference at the Lake of the Ozarks. In keeping with tradition, Nadia's picture and the plaque will be placed in a glassed-in case for permanent viewing at the Department of Natural Resources headquarters in Jefferson City.

The recommendation for the award, which summarized her contributions, concluded as follows: "Her accomplishment in outreach to her community, children and minorities through teaching others about native plants, wildlife and conservation has earned her the respect of colleagues and natural resource professionals across the state."

Nadia (she is Dr. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall) conducts research on natural areas restoration and evaluates native plants with potential use for landscaping and wildlife in the Division of Plant Sciences at the University of Missouri. She also works with the Department of Rural Sociology organizing outreach activities to bring information and education to minority growers. She helps to organize native plant events at MU's Bradford Farm in Columbia, including the annual Native Plant Sale in April and the Native Plant Field Day in June, and participates in other outreach events such as the annual Chestnut Festival at the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center in New Franklin, South Farm in Columbia, and the Wurdack Farm, near St. James. She also makes presentations to groups such as Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners, Columbia Garden Club and OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute on using native grasses, shrubs, and forbs to native plants for gardening and conservation.

Nadia received her bachelor's degree in Agronomy at the University of El Salvador in her native country. She first came to the United States with a Fulbright Scholarship in 1986 to pursue a Master's in Forestry at the University of Southern Illinois at Carbondale and continue her graduate education by obtaining a Ph.D in Plant Biology at the same institution of higher education. She came to Columbia to the University of Missouri in 1999 to continue her work with native legumes and was first introduced to native prairie plants by our group and has been passionate about them since then.

## Mark your calendars for the kick off of Project BudBurst on February 15, 2008!

Reprint from PCA list serve sent 18 Jan 08

**Project BudBurst will officially get underway for the 2008 campaign on February 15, 2008.** Due to the overwhelming interest in last years' pilot project, we are very confident that the 2008 campaign will be a success and that the observations reported on the *Project BudBurst* Web site will be useful to phenologists and climate scientists.

We are excited to announce new features added to the Website that will greatly expand the usability and enhance your experience while participating in *Project BudBurst*!

\* Expanded time to participate! Starting February 15th and continuing until the fall.

\* A *myBudBurst* member registration space! This allows you to save your observation sites and plants online as you monitor phenological changes throughout the year and for future years.

\* More plant species! We have expanded the targeted species list based on your feedback. We have also included the 19 'calibration' species from the National Phenology Network.

\* Feature of the Month! Each month our Website will share pictures of the latest plants blooming.

\* An online geolocator! This gives you an easy way to obtain latitude and longitude coordinates for your observation sites

*Project BudBurst* is a national field campaign for citizen scientists designed to engage the public in the collection of important climate change data based on the timing of leafing and flowering of trees and flowers. Last year's inaugural event drew thousands of people of all ages taking careful observations of the **phenological** events such as the first bud burst, first leafing, first flower, and seed or fruit dispersal of a diversity of tree and flower species, including weeds and ornamentals. Your help in making observations and sharing information about *Project BudBurst* will help us in making this year even more successful.

Again, welcome to 2008 *Project BudBurst* starting February 15th !!

Project BudBurst Team

BudBurst mailing list

[BudBurst@mailman.ucar.edu](mailto:BudBurst@mailman.ucar.edu)

<http://mailman.ucar.edu/mailman/listinfo/budburst>



Becky gives instruction to members at propagation workshop 21 Jan.

## STATE MONPS AWARDS

Submitted by Judy Turner, Chapter Representative

Now that the new calendar year has begun, everyone should start thinking about nominees from our chapter for the state awards. These nominations must be received by the Awards Committee (i.e., Jack Harris - [jahar@mac.com](mailto:jahar@mac.com)) by **April 1, 2008** to be considered.

Award Categories:

1. Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education Award. To be awarded to an individual who, through teaching, writing, or other activity has conveyed to others a significant appreciation and knowledge of Missouri's native flora.

2. Arthur Christ Research Award. To be awarded to an individual who has made a significant contribution toward furthering the knowledge of Missouri flora.

3. Plant Stewardship Award. To be awarded to an individual or organization for the preservation of important elements of Missouri's flora through purchase, registry, and/or management practice.

4. The John E. Wylie Award. To recognize individuals who have provided exceptional service to the Society.

5. Julian A. Steyermark Award. The Society's highest award. To be presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to any and all aspects of Missouri botany. This award is given as merited for superior achievement.

Recipients need not be members of the Society.

A nomination document should contain the full name of the nominee, the name of the nominator, and set forth the major contributions of the individual or organization that merits recognition by the Society. To help with the nomination documentation the Award Committee has developed an Operations Guide. Anyone wishing to nominate someone from our chapter should contact Judy ([jtejasrgv@yahoo.com](mailto:jtejasrgv@yahoo.com)) for a copy of this Guide.

## Million Trees Project Along Missouri and Mississippi Rivers

The Million Trees Project is a new program of Living Lands & Waters (LL&W), a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization based in East Moline, Illinois, formed with the mission: to aid in the protection, preservation, and restoration of the natural environment of our nation's major rivers and their watersheds; to expand awareness of environmental issues and responsibility encompassing our rivers; and to create a desire and opportunity for citizens to take an active role in helping to make a cleaner river environment. For the last ten years, LL&W has focused its efforts on cleaning up garbage littering America's big rivers. In 2003, LL&W launched the next two phases of the project--restoring our rivers to a more natural state by planting trees and removing invasive plants and educating the public on the need to preserve and protect these natural resources.

LL&W is now ready to take its restoration and education efforts to the next level. Beginning in the fall of 2007, LL&W will plant seeds of native hardwood trees at a nursery created on the property of long-time partner Cargill, at its pork-processing plant in Beardstown, Illinois. Using a rich compost mix produced at the plant as a soil enhancer, LL&W's goal is to grow 100,000 trees within the next 2-3 years and 1 MILLION trees within the next 5-10 years. All trees will then be replanted along the shorelines and islands of our major waterways, as well as within towns and cities that have joined LL&W's efforts.

<http://www.livinglandsandwaters.org/milliontrees/default.htm>

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native-plants mailing list

[native-plants@lists.plantconservation.org](mailto:native-plants@lists.plantconservation.org)  
[http://lists.plantconservation.org/mailman/listinfo/native-plants\\_lists.plantconservation.org](http://lists.plantconservation.org/mailman/listinfo/native-plants_lists.plantconservation.org)

## The Birds, the Bees, and the Mites

By Mary Beckman  
*ScienceNOW Daily News*

1 September 2006 Credit: *Science Magazine* -

<http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2006/901/1>

In the classic sex-ed story of the birds and the bees, insects flit from daisy to daisy, fertilizing girl blossoms with pollen rubbed off from boy buds. This activity has long been thought to have originated with plants that flower. But new research in today's issue of *Science* indicates that mites and other soil-dwelling arthropods, called springtails, ferry sperm from male to female mosses.

Ferns and mosses use swimming sperm to procreate, and thus biologists had assumed they didn't need a pollinator's services. Yet these sperm can only swim a couple of centimeters before tuckering out, and botanists have long wondered how female plants can produce their version of seeds--sporophytes--with the closest guy 10 to 20 centimeters away.

So botanist Nils Cronberg of Lund University in Sweden and colleagues embarked on a kind of moss Sex Ed 101 in the lab. They put male and female clusters of silver moss (*Bryum argenteum* Hedwig) on dishes coated with plaster of Paris to trap any sperm trying to make a run for it. The clusters were either allowed to touch or were placed 2 or 4 centimeters apart. Without mites or springtails, the females only made sporophytes when in contact with the males. When the animals had their run of the dishes for 20 hours, however, female plants produced offspring both 2 cm and 4 cm away.

To determine whether the mites and springtails were just poking around or whether they visited the plants for a reason, the researchers compared how many bugs camped out on fertile plants versus sterile plants. At least five times as many animals hunkered on the fertile plants than the barren ones. The researchers don't yet know whether the creatures get a reward for their work, much as bees get nectar.

It's "a beautiful little experiment," says paleobotanist Peter Wilf of Pennsylvania State University in State College, who notes that the strategy gives mosses a way to propagate in dry places. Also, considering that mites, springtails, and mosses predate flowering plants by about 300 million years, the results extend terrestrial plant-animal interactions "quite a bit" back in time, says bryologist Jon Shaw of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.



**A kind of cupid.**

Soil-dwelling arthropods, such as springtails, help fertilize mosses.

### Related sites

[Video of sperm transfer in mosses \(4.7 MB, courtesy of Hans Berggren\)](#)

[Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Mosses But Were Afraid to Ask](#)

[Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Springtails But Were Afraid to Ask](#)

**Please Step Forward For Service**

We need help with the booth when we attend fairs and field days. We need assistance with several workdays at the Stadium Site. Please contact one of the officers ready to volunteer a little time to a very good environmental and educational service.

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

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

\_\_\_ Contributing (\$26.00)

— Life (\$200.00)

Includes both Chapter and State 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 1 through June 30.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Day (or cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to receive email updates between newsletters?

**Yes No**

Method of receiving chapter newsletter:

(circle preference) **Email Regular mail**

**(Email delivery brings you color photos and it saves NPS money)**

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