



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 23, Number 8

August 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

**July-August: Field trips as weather allows.** Please check email updated for field trip announcements. **Please send ideas for hike locations this fall to Paula or Becky.** From now on: you must call or email your intentions (reservations) to attend field trips to Paula or Becky (contact info on first page header). Be sure to check your email for calendar updates or call Paula for activity updates.

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

**September 6 – 7: EcoArtFest at Cooper's Landing:** 2:00 to 8:00. Set up is at 12:30. Please plan to help with our booth.

**September 8: Regular Meeting** at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Nadia Navarrete-Tindall will give a presentation about a privately owned Conservation Area in El Salvador, where the owners offer ecotours.

**September 12 – 14: State Board Meeting.** South St. Louis Area – La Barque Watershed and other sites. Read the PetalPusher for complete information. Paula, Ann and Becky are going; contact one of us to organize carpool and rooms.

**October 18: Chestnut Festival** at HARC, the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center, New Franklin, MO. 10 am to 4 pm. Set-up at 9. Please plan to help with our booth; there have been 800 people attend from across the state.

**November 10: Regular Meeting** at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Topic to be announced.

**December 6:** State Board Meeting in Columbia. All are welcome to attend.

**December ?:** Holiday Party

For more information contact Paula at 573-474-4225.

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**If you didn't get a Round Tuit for your membership dues,**



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**Procrastinators' grace: renew your membership this month!!**

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## Stadium Site Update

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



Please take a good look at our adopted spot along Stadium across from MLK Park and tell your friends and co-workers about our beautification work there. The fall flowers will start blooming in Sept-Oct. More species should show up next year. MODOT gave our Chapter a Letter of Commendation for a job well done.

## Need for a volunteer to print and mail newsletter.

Paula has been taking Becky's newsletter to a printer, assembling it and mailing it for two years. Her other duties include Treasurer and Membership chairman, assembling activities for the Calendar, setting up and manning the fair booth, inventory and purchase of books, and helping at nearly every function.

Paula would deeply appreciate someone willing to take on this service to the Chapter one day per month.

## EcoArtFest at Cooper's Landing Sept 6-7, 2-10 pm

At the July meeting, several members indicated an interest in manning the booth for a few of those hours at the EcoArt Fest. Everyone who went last year had a restful afternoon overlooking the Missouri River. There was a good turnout of public and we contacted many people. Mike Cooper bought many of our plants to beautify his entrance.

There is always room for more members to join us at the booth for a congenial visit and dinner by the River.

## What's This Plant?

**JULY FLOWER** was correctly identified by Jean Graebner, Vanessa Melton, Kathleen Anderson, Paula Peters. *Ratibida pinnata*, **gray-head coneflower**; mesic soil in full sun; field edges, roadsides, railroads, woodland borders. Early successional species found in lightly disturbed areas and new native plantings.



## AUGUST FLOWER



Send the Common name, Scientific name, habitat and bloom time to Becky. Everyone who answers it correctly will be listed in the September Issue with a new photo of a plant.

## Meeting Minutes

*Submitted by Jean Graebner, Secretary*

President Nancy Langworthy opened the regular meeting of Hawthorn Chapter MONPS at 7 pm Monday, July 14, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Columbia.

Members voted unanimously to approve the revised version of the by-laws. The proposed revisions had been published in the April newsletter and an announcement of the upcoming vote in the July newsletter.

Treasurer Paula Peters announced we have \$5,062.25 in the treasury. In reporting on the Marge McDermott memorial fund, Paula said we have paid out \$270 for the Poplar tree we chose and we have committed \$250 more to Total Environments for planting of the tree, which will take place this Fall. After that commitment is factored in, amount remaining is \$315.

Vanessa Melton announced that member Bill Clark, who functions as liaison between the chapter and the Unitarian Church, suggested that we contribute \$100 per year to the church together with a letter of thanks for the privilege of meeting there. Jean Graebner moved that the chapter do this, Vanessa seconded and the motion was passed.

Paula described EcoArt Fest, the two-day event held at the Missouri River location of Cooper's Landing on September 6 and 7. Several members indicated their intention of helping with our table at that event.

It was announced that the Hawthorn Chapter picnic which had been scheduled to be held at Wildhaven on July 19<sup>th</sup> has been postponed.

Nancy reported on a communication she had received from Smart Growth proposing that the group revise their by-laws. They were asking for our agreement to this because we were one of their original members. After consultation with Nadia and Vanessa, Nancy gave that agreement on behalf of the membership.

Becky Erickson read from a Missouri Department of Transportation official resolution which formally recognizes Hawthorn Chapter as the adopter of the right-of-way of MO 740 in Boone County between West Boulevard and Carrie Francke Drive. The Adopt-A-Highway program resolution emphasizes MoDOT's "appreciation for the outstanding work the chapter is performing for the State of Missouri and for all those who travel its highways."

**"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 Danish educator**

**DUES ARE DUE: Mail to Paula.**

It was announced that Paul McKenzie (who has presented programs on grasses for us once or twice) has offered to serve as our representative to the state board even though he will not be able to attend meetings.

Margaret and Bob Schafer of Moberly were introduced as new members. He is asking for advice and/or help in doing some wildflower landscaping in a public park in Moberly. An unusual feature of the park is that it has a railroad, built by Bob which carries passengers around the park. This is a feature regularly used by schools in the area. (For more information on this unusual and productive hobby, see an article by Bob in another part of the newsletter.)

Nadia Navarrete-Tindall then introduced Hwei-Yiing Li-Johnson, a colleague of Nadia's at Lincoln University, who is using a DNA fingerprinting technique to separate Missouri native plant species from cultivars and non-native species. She took us through a power-point presentation of the techniques used in collecting samples and the lab procedure to achieve the preliminary data. By using this data, they can produce graphs which show how close the relationship is, genetically, between, for example, native American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*) and invasive oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*). Other plants evaluated include native bamboo vs. non-native bamboo (*Arundinaria* spp). Elderberry, persimmon, warm season grasses, and poverty grass from different regions of United States were also used to show the regional DNA differences. Hwei-Yiing did a superb job of explaining, and answering questions, so that this cutting-edge technology, and its significance, could be appreciated by her audience. Hwei-Yiing and Nadia will be presenting their research on native plants at the Prairie Conference (4-8 Aug) in MN.

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

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

**All are invited; please join us.**

## Field Trips for June State Meeting

Submitted by Judy Turner

(Ed note: Judy provided photos to illustrate the beautiful plants she saw in NW Missouri.)

### Friday evening

Presentation on pollinators of the western fringed prairie orchid.



J. Turner

### Saturday

Star School Prairie CA, southern tract- wolfberry, white prairie larkspur, coralberry, bittersweet vine, lead plant, thimbleweed, nine-anthered prairie clover, yucca, white sage, silvery scruf pea.



Lead plant

B. Erickson

Lunch at Crystal Lake in Brickyard Hill CA

Little Tarkio: 15 acres of high quality prairie, one of the last remnants of this type of habitat in the Glaciated Plains of northwestern Missouri.- western fringed prairie orchid , white indigo, new jersey tea, prairie phlox, Echinacea pallida

### Sunday

Private - Cecil's Prairie, Clinton County - sand milkweed, bunchflower, eastern gamma grass  
We spent some time looking for mead's milkweed, but no one found any.



Bunch flower

J. Turner



Eastern gamma grass

J. Turner

**Audubon Pennsylvania's  
Bird Habitat Recognition Program  
Inspires People to Create**

**Bird Habitat in Backyards and Beyond**

**Steven J. Saffier** Audubon At Home Coordinator Audubon PA  
John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove  
1201 Pawlings Road  
Audubon Pa 19403  
610-666-5593 x112  
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Audubon, Pennsylvania, June 30, 2008 – Audubon Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania state program of the National Audubon Society, is encouraging people to “green” their land by creating good habitat for birds on their land. The new Audubon At Home **Bird Habitat Recognition** program invites property owners and others to join a growing community of earth-conscious land stewards by managing their yards and other lands to support birds and other wildlife. Participants who register their site on the initiative’s new website will have an opportunity to be recognized by Audubon for their conservation efforts. Open space of all kinds - residential, commercial, schoolyards, and public lands – has the potential to provide food, shelter and even nesting sites for birds

Loss of habitat is a primary threat to both common birds and birds of conservation concern. The Audubon At Home program provides information and resources for sharing “people space” with birds - from planting native plants, to conserving water, to eliminating pesticides, there are many ways to foster vibrant habitats that will both attract birds and provide a healthy refuge for friends and family.

“Backyards, gardens and other outdoor spaces can provide essential habitat for many birds,” said Steven Saffier, Audubon Pennsylvania’s Audubon At Home Coordinator. “Converting even a portion of a traditional grass lawn to native plants will attract more birds, and transform your yard into a vital part of Pennsylvania’s rich ecosystems and offers nature experiences just beyond the back door.”

Homeowners, school teachers, business owners, park authorities and others interested in having their property recognized by Audubon Pennsylvania can visit <http://pa.audubon.org> to learn more. Participants will submit information about what they are doing to create bird habitat; they are also encouraged to monitor their efforts, report their successes in attracting birds, and “advertise” their stewardship with an Audubon yard sign. Over time, the information individuals provide will help Audubon target personal actions on private and public lands for the greatest conservation impact.

**Kathryn Kennedy, Ph.D, Receives  
Highest Conservation Award  
from Garden Club of America**

Center for Plant Conservation Press Release  
Jo Meyerkord, 314-577-9541 Communications Coordinator

ST. LOUIS, MO -- The Center for Plant Conservation and the Garden Club of St. Louis announces Kathryn L. Kennedy, Ph.D., received the Frances K. Hutchinson Medal, one of the Garden Club of America's highest awards for conservation. Kennedy joined the Center for Plant Conservation as its president and executive director in Sept of 2000. The Center coordinates and assists development of hands-on plant conservation programs in a national network of 36 participating institutions. Kathryn coordinates the Center's work from the national office in St. Louis, ensuring scientific excellence and program development for the organization and its institutions. Nominated by the Garden Club of St. Louis, Kennedy accepted the medal in a ceremony in Norfolk, Va.

Prior to joining the Center for Plant Conservation, Kennedy had been working toward the conservation of rare plants for over 20 years. "It is not an overstatement to say that Kathryn's leadership, dedication, and scientific brilliance have brought CPC to the front lines in the ongoing struggle to save the earth's endangered plants," said Becky Fouke, the Garden Club of St. Louis awards committee chairman.

"I'm thankful for GCA's support for my passion, the conservation and restoration of America's vulnerable native plants. Nearly 25% of our native flora is already at risk, and climate change brings new challenges," said Kennedy. "Every plant lover makes a difference, moderating energy use, sharing our love of native plants in our own gardens, supporting conservation policies and budgets, and volunteering."

The Center for Plant Conservation is coordinated by a national office and guided by a volunteer board of trustees and the experts of the CPC Science Advisory Council. By developing standards and protocols and conducting conservation programs in horticulture, research, restoration, and raising awareness, CPC's network is striving to save America's rarest plants from being lost forever.

For additional information on the Center for Plant Conservation visit the CPC website at [www.centerforplantconservation.org](http://www.centerforplantconservation.org)

**Please Step Forward For Service**

We need a person to assemble and mail the newsletters.  
We need help with the booth when we attend fairs and field days.

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)**

**DUES ARE DUE**

Hawthorn Chapter Missouri Native Plant Society

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