



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 25, Number 6  
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## Future Activities

Watch email for notices of impromptu hikes. **Please offer suggestions of your favorite walking destinations** to Paula or Becky; we will get them posted as soon as weather permits. **PLEASE call or email Becky 657-2314 or Paula 474-4225 as soon as you know you will attend an activity.** We don't want to leave anyone behind if weather or plans change. Leave your name and PHONE # if you leave a message. If you do not communicate by email and have a suggested destination or want notice of a walk, call Paula 474-4225 to get on the phone list.

**5-6 June Saturday-Sunday: State Meeting** based at Chillicothe. Details in May-June Petal Pusher on front page. Yes there is still time to get a room. See fringed prairie orchids.

**10 June Thursday Lunch** with Native Plant Enthusiasts! 11:30 am at Uprise Bakery [RagTag Theater] Hitt Street just south of Broadway. We need to discuss and plan summer activities.

**Please plan to help with the booth Call Paula to discover your service possibilities.**  
**17 June Thursday 4-8 PM Bradford Farm on Rangeline Road South** Native Plant and Quail Habitat open house. Set up booth at 3 pm. [Lunch is normally held on the third Thursday. See 10 June.]

**June 19, [changed from 26 June], Botany Walk at Wayne Morton's Prairie** with the Osage Plains chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society. MPF board member Wayne Morton's 400-acre prairie is just across the road from Hi Lonesome Prairie outside of Cole Camp, Missouri. Meet at the library in Clinton at 9:00 a.m. and carpool or **meet at the Morton Prairie site at 10:00 a.m.** To reach the prairie from Cole Camp (Cole Camp is approximately 20 miles south of Sedalia), take Hwy 52 west of Cole Camp go 0.75 mile. Turn north (right) on Klink Road (gravel) at the propane distributor. Go 1.5 miles and turn west (left) on Hi Lonesome Road. Go 0.5 mile to a gate on the south side of the road. Many members of the group will eat lunch together in Cole Camp following the walk. Questions? Call Wayne Morton at 417-777-1746.

This will be our summer prairie walk in cooperation with Osage Chapter and Missouri Prairie Foundation. To be in Cole Camp at 10 am we must leave Columbia MDC Research **AT 7 am.** If you live near Booneville it is suggested you make arrangements for pick-up in Booneville. If you live near JC it is more efficient to go west on US 50 and follow directions on your own and leave at 7 am. **Make reservations early!**

**12 July Monday Regular Membership Meeting 7 pm** at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd.

**Contact Paula for more information 474-4225**

Jack Beckett stepped in to fill the Vice-president position until December this year. We will have a vote for this position at the January meeting. However, Jack will soon be moving to Texas. We need someone to volunteer to fill this position for at least 6 months. The primary job is to find people to speak at regular membership meetings and supervise business meetings if the President cannot attend. Please call or email Vanessa with your offer to fill the vice-president position.

## News from Stateside

Submitted by John White, Chapter Rep

### State Board Meeting Farmington, MO. Friday 30 April

Friday evening everyone met at the Mineral Area College in Farmington for a presentation on The Natural Communities and Management of Hawn State Park. Allison Vaughn of the MODNR Division of State Parks gave a very interesting and informative program.

Allison told that the Park comprises 5000 acres and was started by Helen Coffey Hawn. Most of the area is designated a Wild Area but there are four Natural Areas, a Developed Area and many trails, including the Pickle Creek Natural Area.

She explained that prescribed burning is done in most of the area in units with intermediate burn intervals of 2 to 5 years. The park contains Witness Trees (trees that were "witness" to historic events) for events dating before 1862. This is an excellent park with a high diversity of ecosystems and topographical features.

### **Saturday May 1 Board Meeting**

The Board meeting was also held at the Mineral Area College.

- Donations to the Hudson Fund include \$162 from John Oliver and \$500 from Richard Moore and Linda Hezel.
- For those behind on their dues, they are due July 1 each year.
- Sherry Leis reported no nominations had been received and the current board members had agreed to serve another term.
- Nadia Navarrete-Tindall has received 2 nominations for the service award and 1 for the plant stewardship award.
- It was brought to attention of the Board that individuals in some Chapters did not receive the Petal Pusher or email with the Farmington meeting details prior to the meeting. Information on the meeting was not on the Web Site as well. The Petal Pusher mailing is sometimes late due to not receiving all chapter reports on time. In order for the members to receive timely State event notifications they will be asked to update their email addresses to the Society. Also, David Winn will be contacted to see if the web site can be updated in a timely manner.
- The Society gained 25 new members since January of this year, six of these from Springfield. There are now 332 members with 50 life members.
- There is a potential new Springfield Chapter in the works. Larry Wegmann will soon petition for acceptance into MONPS. This will be a beneficial addition and hopes are they are very successful.

After a discussion concerning merchandising opportunities, a motion was made and seconded to

- purchase 75 tote bags with the MONPS logo, perhaps in color depending on the cost, then change to a different scene periodically.
- It was voted not to have a booth at the National Areas Association Conference, but to donate \$100.00 to the Conference.
- Paul McKenzie will send details concerning the inventory units on the Missouri river. Any chapter interested in doing a unit may contact Paul.

### Field trips

After tornado warnings most of Friday evening, we had great weather Saturday and Sunday; partly cloudy and in the 70s.

#### **Hawn State Park**

Members met at the shelter house at Hawn on Saturday morning where we took the Whispering Pines - Pickle Creek Trail.

Some of us learned how to separate *Zizia aurea*, *Zizia aptera*, *Thaspium trifoliatum* and *Thasm barbinode* by leaf shapes and flower color. Some other interesting finds were Small Yellow Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus* var. *Pubescens*), Blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), Hairy Lip Fern (*Cheilanthes lanosa*), Azalea (*Rhododendron rosium*), and Winged Elm (*Ulmus alata*).

#### **Hickory Canyons Natural Area**

From Hawn it was a short distance to Hickory Canyon N.A. This is an area of Lamotte sandstone bedrock with narrow, winding box canyons forming 100 foot high bluffs. In the cool, moist, shaded box canyons there are many native fern species, club moss and other mosses with the numerous tree and flowering plant species. The lower area is rich, mesic sandstone forest, an uncommon natural community type in Missouri and the upper slopes are dry and dry-mesic sandstone forest. There is a great diversity of habitat types.

One highlight at this area was finding a Ringed Salamander (*Ambystoma annulatum*) which is ranked Vulnerable (S3) in Missouri. It was found in the grass between the road and the trailhead, and is only the second documented sighting for St. Genevieve County. [photo p4]

#### **St. Francois State Park**

This is another park providing a high diversity of habitats including wooded ridges, hollows, glades, springs, and fens.

We first left the trail to a dolomite glade where we found Supple-jack (*Berchemia scandens*), Blue ash (*Fraxinus quadrangulats*), Purple and Smooth cliff brake (*Pellaea spp.*) and *Salvia lyrata* among many others.

Back at the Mooners Hollow Trail, along Coonville Creek, observations included Green Dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*), Hispid buttercup (*Ranunculus hispidus*), Cancer root (*Orobancha uniflora*). Wild comfrey (*Cynoglossum virginianum*) and Spring cress (*Cardamine bulbosa*).

## Earth Day Booth

*Submitted by the E-D volunteers*

Because of the recent rains, there was a delightful activity at the site of the little creek that winds through Peace Park: children with boats made of tree bark and leaves, taking advantage of the ankle-deep water to have boat races. The weather was very comfortable; cool and breezy all day.

In spite of being postponed for a week [due to the downpours the week before], the crowd seemed as large as usual. People were as friendly and interested in learning about native plants as they have been in past years. We were up speaking to customers from noon to five that afternoon. We were surprised at the knowledge many of the young visitors had about growing natives. We had a good sale total of \$277, mostly for plants.

The booth had a great spot: two spaces right across the street from the parking area reserved for set-ups. Three of us stayed the entire day - it was a long day, but worth it!



Wanda helps customer pick out plants *B Erickson photo*

**Thanks to John White, Jean Graebner, Wanda Parscal, and Nadia Navarrete-Tindall for their contributions in this edition.**

## Mosses, Speaker Topic at May Meeting

*Submitted by Nadia Navarrete-Tindall*

**Reminder: July Regular Meeting will be opened at 7 pm.**

Steve Stacey from Jefferson City was the guest speaker at the regular meeting of the Hawthorn Chapter on May 10. Steve talked about moss identification, the beauty of incorporating moss in shade gardens, how mosses propagate, and different methods to grow moss outdoors and indoors in terrariums. During this presentation Steve explained the life cycle of bryophytes [very different from vascular plants], showed us mosses up close under microscopes, and taught us to develop a whole new awareness about these charming but usually overlooked plants.

## Please plan to help with the booth

**17 June Thursday 4-8 pm at MU's Bradford Farm on Rangeline Road South. Set up booth at 3 pm; pack up at 8**

**Call Paula to discover your service possibilities.**

## NPS Dues Due Next Month

There seems to be confusion about NPS fiscal year: it starts in JULY!

Please send you dues in during July so you won't miss out on future activities. The form is the last, or address page of the newsletter. Send it to the Treasurer: PAULA PETERS [Not to the newsletter editor]. You will have other reminders in this newsletter, but it is your responsibility to get them in during July.

## Lunches . . .

**June 10, Thursday:**

**Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!**

**11:30 am at Uprise Bakery [RagTag Theater]**

**Hitt Street just south of Broadway**

**We need input and discussion to plan the Bradford booth, find a new VP, and choose summer and fall activities. We will return to the third Thursday for the July lunch.**

# Rockhounds Find Orchid

*Submitted by Becky Erickson*

On the sunny morning of 22 May, fourteen of us loaded into two 4X4 pickups for the first half-mile of the excursion into Warren Taylor's beautifully recovered bottomland in Callaway County. After bravely wading the rain-swollen Hillers Creek and picking our way across a steamy, soggy fescue field, we entered the shade and coolness of what seemed an amazing primeval woodland. It was a superb reward for the effort to get there.

This area had been heavily grazed up to about 50 years ago and some logging had taken place, but now all the diversity had recovered. We found a whole hillside covered with goldenseal and it was hard to get around without stepping on ginseng. We cautiously avoided many false hellebore plants on our way to the top of a ridge where we entered the opposite habitat: a glade. This rocky barren hilltop was covered with shooting star, rose verbena, Mo coneflower, bastard toadflax and a long list of other sun-loving natives.

We dropped down the other side of the ridge to a tributary of Hillers Creek where it was carpeted with Jack-in-the-pulpit and thick with paw-paw trees. Most of the group became focused on finding ancient corals in the streambed; a pleasant diversion in the cooling shade. We planned this trip in hopes of seeing as many Adam-and-Eve orchids as we had seen there three years before. We were about to cross the tributary for the hike back across the steamy fescue field when the lagging rockhounds hollered forward "are the orchids short and yellowy-purple?" We all did an about face to see the only orchid of the day. We had met our goal and seen much more!

Warren joined us at Bek's in Fulton for a very tasty lunch complemented with raspberry lemonade and cheesecake.



Adam and Eve orchid  
*B. Erickson photo*



Lynn, Warren and Ann look for coral.



Goldenseal

*B. Erickson photos*



Ringed salamander in Hickory Canyon  
NA [see page 2] *J. White photo*

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Don't forget to sign up for North American Prairie Conference 1-5 August, UNI, Cedar Falls Iowa. Complete information on the web site ([www.napc2010.org](http://www.napc2010.org)). This is your chance for a short, exciting, educational trip this summer. **Field trips are outstanding!!!!!!!**

In keeping with the conference theme, "Restoring a National Treasure", there will be various opportunities to observe prairie restorations and reconstructions. Participants will be able to discuss the latest prairie research, explore remnant and restored prairies on field trips, and view local and national exhibits.

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## Spring Creep Ramifications

By MELANIE FITZPATRICK, a climate scientist at the Union of Concerned Scientists, 1825 K Street NW, Suite 800, Washington D.C. 20006; e-mail: [mfitzpatrick@ucsusa.org](mailto:mfitzpatrick@ucsusa.org); Web site: [www.ucsusa.org](http://www.ucsusa.org). This essay is available to McClatchy-Tribune News Service subscribers. Read more: <http://www.kansascity.com/2010/05/10/1935351/spring-creep-ramifications.html#ixzz0nXki92cN> Posted on Mon, May. 10, 2010 07:13 AM

Climate scientists have projected that human-induced global warming would make spring arrive earlier than normal, and it is - by about 10 days so far. And while most people are only too happy to say goodbye to winter, "spring creep" is posing a significant threat to plants and animals across the country.

I recently moderated a press conference with scientists who are studying the effects of spring creep. Jake Weltzin, the executive director of the U.S.A. National Phenology Network and an ecologist at the U.S. Geological Survey, found that an earlier spring creates "mismatches" when some plants bud earlier and the animals that depend on them have not adjusted their internal clocks. For example, bees might fly to an area that provides habitat for plants they historically pollinate only to find those plants already have bloomed. Weltzin says many insects, including caterpillars, are emerging earlier, too, but some birds have maintained their traditional migratory schedule. As a result, birds are arriving after the insects have metamorphosed into butterflies or other inedible forms.

Sometimes these spring mismatches can be fatal. In a number of states, caterpillars, which in the past were eaten by migratory birds, are now falling to the ground before the birds show up. That is not only bad news for the birds. A recent study by a scientist in Kentucky found that thousands of grazing pregnant mares in the Ohio River Valley had ingested the caterpillars, which caused them to abort their fetuses.

Charles Davis, an assistant professor of evolutionary biology at Harvard University, published a follow-up study in January that found invasive plants in Concord that flower earlier with the early arrival of spring are, by and large, the "winners." Davis believes the fact that they can adjust their flowering time to changing temperatures may give them an edge, allowing them to flourish and spread at the expense of native plants.

These findings, which Davis says likely hold true across New England and possibly the Mid-Atlantic, are significant given that damages from invasive species across the country total more than \$100 billion a year.

Spring creep also has a direct link to forest fires. Another scientist at our press event, Anthony Westerling, published a paper in 2006 showing rising temperatures combined with early snowmelt are contributing to a dramatic increase in the number and size of forest fires in Western states.

Westerling, an assistant professor of environmental engineering and geography at the University of California-Merced, explained that spring creep means a longer summer season and drier vegetation, which provides a more flammable fuel supply.

Westerling found that there are now about 10 times more large fires in the northern Rockies than there were in the 1970s and early 1980s, and today's fires burn 30 times more acreage than they did decades ago. This increase was so pronounced, he said, because there were very few large fires prior to the mid-1980s.

Some species are adapting to these changes, but a significant number of others are not, and that spells trouble. According to the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a 3 degree to 7 degree Fahrenheit increase in the average global temperature could result in the loss of as much as a third of the world's species. If we exceed 7 degrees Fahrenheit warming, more than half of all species could become extinct.

So what can we do about this problem? Unfortunately, even if we were able to stop all global warming emissions today, the climate would still continue to change because carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases remain in the atmosphere for decades. But we can avoid the worst potential consequences of climate change by dramatically reducing our emissions. It's time to spring into action, the earlier the better

[Ed. note: some content was cut to fit this space.]

### Ed. comment:

**Your observations can help track Spring Creep. Log onto [Budburst](#) and enter the dates you see your plants emerge, flower, or set seed. You can enter species other than the common plants they list.**

**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 Chestnut Festival. If you get this only by mail, please consider requesting email delivery; it saves us money

\_\_\_ Local Chapter (\$6.00 no state information)

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

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

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

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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