



Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 26, Number 10
Hawthorn Chapter Officers:

President

Vanessa Melton
573-864-3905
vanndawn@gmail.com

Vice President

Nancy Langworthy
nancylangworthy@hotmail.com
573-874-2463

Secretary

Ann Wakeman
5798 Windy Meadows Lane
Fulton, MO 65251
573-642-6927
mike-ann@socket.net

Treasurer

John George
573-234-1784
John.George@mdc.mo.gov

Membership

Paula Peters
2216 Grace Ellen Dr
Columbia, MO 65202
573-474-4225
pieridae1@gmail.com

Chapter Representative

John [Rusty] White
573-886-8698
rstywhit@yahoo.com

Web Master

Doug Miller
thedesign@bigthe.com

Web site:

<http://columbianativeplants.org/>
Webmaster: Doug Miller

The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send submissions by the 26th to:

Communications Editor

Becky Erickson
573-657-2314
beckyerick@socket.net

October 2011

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. Carpool meeting place, MDC Research Center, is on College just north of Stadium.

1 October Saturday: HaHaTonka State Park. Meet for carpools at 8am. This will be an all day outing; do not count on being home "early". Bring a snack and water. We will eat at a winery on the way home mid afternoon.

8 October Saturday: Plant Sale at MU's Bradford Farm. 10 am to 2 pm. **Missouri Wildflowers will join us for a big plant sale.** We need help mostly at 9:30 and at 2 to set up for the sale and to pack up at the end of the day. Bradford is east on Broadway or New Haven to Rangeline; south [right] the distance posted on the sign at your intersection. Large faded mustard buildings are set back from the road. MU columns are in the front yard of the old farm house. Please come to buy plants if you can't take the time to help.

22 October Saturday Mosey to a local wild area. Meet for carpools at 9am. Sign up with Paula and make a suggestion for your favorite destination.

5 November Saturday Wreath Workshop at Ann and Mike's. 10am to 2pm. See article inside for directions, page 3.

14 November Monday Regular Membership Meeting 6:00pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Sheppard Blvd. Program tba. Note the time change due to change in Daylight Savings time back to Standard time.

17 November Thursday Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts: 11:30 RagTag, 10 Hitt St.

11 December Sunday: Holiday Party at Vanessa and David's. Noon to 4 See Invitation inside.

Call Vanessa for more information 864-3905

Thanks to Ann Wakeman, Vanessa Melton-Silvey, John White for their contributions to the newsletter.

September Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Ann Wakeman, Secretary

The September 12, 2011 meeting of the Hawthorn chapter of Missouri Native Plant Society was called to order at 7pm by president Vanessa Melton.

Treasurer's report. John George reported a balance of \$7829.79. Amended by John G. 26 Sept: After paying John White for his trip to State meeting and Paula Peters for printing September newsletter = \$7545.72.

October 1 will be the field trip to HaHa Tonka. Other possible field trips for the remainder of this season could be to Danville Glades, the restoration at Prairie Fork Conservation Area, Auxvasse Glades. Other suggestions should be forwarded to Becky Erickson.

Lea Langdon mentioned the Park Avenue Preschool rain garden (installed by the Columbia Metro Rotary Club) has problematic edges. She and Denny will get together to set up the Memorandum of Understanding before the chapter offers advice.

The chapter will have a booth at the Sustainable Living Fair held at Columbia College September 18. Help will be needed to set up 10 to 10:30 that morning.

Nancy L. suggested the chapter set up a work day for the Stadium roadside this fall.

Becky E. suggested chapter members also consider joining Wild Ones and Missouri Prairie Foundation for their informative journals.

Since attendance has been small at the Thursday lunches, there was discussion whether to continue or not. Some members at the meeting will look into alternative places for this function.

Laura Hillman announced a Wild Ones workday October 1 at Epple Field. Becky offered to send an announcement if Laura could send email addresses for Wild Ones members and interested parties

Becky Erickson presented the program titled: Butterfly Gardening 101. She showed how to identify common butterflies found in our backyards, as well as their caterpillars and host plants. They included the swallowtails, checkerspots, fritillaries, red admirals, painted ladies, monarchs, skippers and little blues. She then surprised us with a quiz so we could see what we learned.

Next meeting will be November 14. Program to be announced.

Meeting was adjourned about 8:20pm.

News from Stateside . . .

Sedalia, MO September 9 to 11, 2011

Submitted by John White, Chapter Representative

The MONPS Fall Meeting was held at the MDC building within the State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. Field trips to Paint Brush Prairie and Hi Lonesome Prairie were scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 10. Approximately 25 people attended the meetings and field trips, a good turn out for a State Meeting.

Friday, Sept. 9, Program

Emily Horner, MDC, presented an update on the "Mead's Milkweed Recovery Program in the Prairies of Pettis and Benton Counties". In Kansas there are good populations of Mead's Milkweed (*Asclepias meadii*) and they are increasing, with no legal protection; not so in Missouri, where it is listed Federal Threatened, State Endangered and only protected on public land. It is struggling along. The plant is not a great producer anyway. Only 6% or less produce and there are very few seeds in those that do. Many areas are hayed resulting in no blooms. The plants are genetically self-incompatible and subject to inbreeding depression. They require insect pollination by bees, must be 3 meters apart to be genetically different, and new plants may take 15 years to produce seed. They need large areas, not prairie fragments, to thrive. That only touches on the problems. Pretty grim outlook for Mead's from the start.

Several management techniques have been, and still are, being researched. Missouri researchers are now studying Mead's in Kansas in an attempt to discover why it is doing so well there, but not so here. Meads can live 50 years or more since it can reproduce asexually but it loses the genetic diversity needed to adapt to environmental changes. Space does not allow me to include all the prairies Emily reviewed but research is continuing and only time will tell. The recovery goal is to create larger populations, with sustainable reproduction, sufficient to delist Mead's Milkweed.

Saturday, Sept. 10, Board Meeting

Attendance at this board meeting was better than usual. Paul McKenzie, the new Society President, brought the meeting to order. John Oliver is now Vice President. A quorum was present and the minutes, agenda and budget were approved. Following are some of the highlights.

- Petal Pusher Editor Janet Haworth was unable to attend but, along with a few other newsletter items discussed, there was a general consensus that two columns per page are needed.
- It was determined that awards should be put on the website and David Winn will be invited to the next board meeting to discuss some website issues.
- Emily Horner volunteered to be coordinator for the Roadside Wildflowers Poster, which was sort of put on hold until now. She will contact those that volunteered to help at the last board meeting. More images need to be generated for the Poster.
- There are 13 new members in the Society since the last meeting. 80 have not renewed and there are 55 life members, which leaves a total of 343 members.
- Brian Edmond reported that a database prototype will be sent out before the Dec. meeting.
- Big Oak Tree State Park is now open but has no Visitor Center and no staff, after being flooded.

Wreath Workshop

Submitted by Ann Wakeman, host of workshop

November 5, Ann Wakeman & Mike Rues will host a wreath making workshop and cookout at their home. You need to bring your own plant clippers, wreath base, craft/florist wire, and gluegun. Dried materials are available already collected. You may wish to collect your own from our place or bring stuff from your own garden. Cedar boughs are also available along the road to our place. You may bring a small salad or veggie, burgers, brats, chicken breast, or whatever you wish. Mike will grill them on his Dad's Hasty Bake grill. We'll likely be making wreaths indoors on our porch & garden room.

Directions from Columbia: Route WW (east Broadway), continue on Route J which turns into Route F toward Fulton. One mile past Route KK junction, turn right onto Windy Meadows Lane (just past overhead powerlines). On Windy Meadows, take first left turn. Then at second turn, go straight [down the center driveway] onto brown gravel driveway. Our house is stained ripe-wheat/gold with brown trim.

Editors note: Ann and Mike have worked for nearly 20 years on building native habitats. This is your chance to see the best private reconstruction in this region of the state.



Paula's wreath, made last year. You, too, could have a beautiful natural wreath on your door this winter.

Holiday Party

Invitation by Vanessa Melton-Silvey, President

!! Mark your calendars now !!

All members are invited.

This year's Hawthorn Chapter Holiday Party will be Sunday, December 11th, 12 noon, at Vanessa and David's house close to New Franklin.

Details and directions will come in December newsletter.

[News from Stateside . . . continued]

- The winter board meeting will be held at the Dunn-Palmer Herbarium, Columbia, Dec.3, at 10:00am. Ideas are needed to "spice up" this board meeting and can be emailed to Paul McKenzie or George Yatskievych (emails are in the Petal Pusher).

Saturday, Sept. 10, Field Trips

There was a very good turn out for the prairie walks. Weather was decent, partly cloudy, and no rain until we were just leaving the last prairie location. Flowering was abundant in the prairies with somewhat fewer blooming plants in Friendly prairie.

- Paint Brush Prairie Conservation Area

This prairie is in Pettis County, 314 acres, 9 miles south of Sedalia, and was named after the showy Indian paintbrush. It is a dry-mesic upland prairie with very showy spring flowers. Mead's Milkweed is on the plant list but none were found on this day. Some other notable species, pink katydid, prairie mole cricket, regal fritillary butterfly and bunchflower, can be found here. Some of the plants documented were *Lespedeza virginica* (slender lespedeza), *Gnaphalium obtusifolium* (old-field balsam), *Pycnanthemum tenuifolium* (slender mountain mint), *Silphium integrifolium* var. *integrifolium* (rosinweed), *Helianthus mollis* (ashy sunflower), *Preanthes aspera* (rough white lettuce), *Liatrix aspera* (rough blazing star), *Euthamia gymnospermoides* (grass-leaved goldenrod), *Eryngium yuccifolium* (rattlesnake master), *Sporobolus heterolepis* (prairie dropseed) and *Cuscuta* spp. (Dodder).

- Friendly Prairie

Although not on the agenda a few of us made a brief stop at this prairie which is about 2 miles west of Paint Brush C.A., just across highway 65. It is 40 acres, also in Pettis County and is owned by the Missouri Prairie Foundation. In the past it served as a roadside rest stop for highway travelers, hence the name Friendly Prairie. Over 257 plant species have been recorded and 52 bird species have been identified including the greater prairie-chicken. The only plants I took time to list were *Solidago rigida* (Stiff Goldenrod) and *Solidago gigantea* (Tall Goldenrod).

- Hi Lonesome Prairie Conservation Area

One mile west of Cole Camp, in Benton County, and a half mile north is Hi Lonesome, named from the greeting one cowboy would give to another when they would meet on the trail or over a campfire. It is 627 acres and is one of the largest remaining tracts of native prairie in this part of Missouri. It provides year-round habitat for greater prairie chickens. A few of the noted plant species observed include: *Croton* spp., *Cyperus lupulinus* ssp. *lupulinus* (nut sedge), *Tragia betonicifolia* (noseburn), and a large patch of *Salvia azurea* var *grandiflora* (Blue Sage), which could be seen from quite a distance across the prairie.

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

___ Regular (\$16.00)*

___ Student (\$11.00)

___ Contributing (\$26.00)* designate chapter or state

___ State Lifetime (\$200)

___ 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: **Missouri Native Plant Society**.
Send check and this form to: Paula Peters, 2216 Grace Ellen Dr., Columbia, MO 65202

If you forgot to renew in July, you can still renew now.

MEMBERSHIP FORM Missouri Native Plant Society-Hawthorn Chapter July 1 through June 30.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: Evening _____

Day or Cell _____

Email: _____

Method of receiving chapter newsletter:
(circle preference) **Email** **Regular mail**

Email delivery brings you color photos and it saves NPS money. With email delivery you also receive updates and announcements between newsletters. Regular Mail includes NO interim updates or reminders without request for phone contact.

Hawthorn Chapter Missouri Native Plant Society
Newsletter editor, Becky Erickson
PO Box 496
Ashland MO 65010-0496

