



# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

Volume 28, Number 9  
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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. Send submissions by the 26<sup>th</sup> to:

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September 2013

## Future Activities

Watch email for email 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 Call Paula for more information.. Carpool meeting place, commuter parking lot at AC and US63.

**We will no longer offer planned tours of local wild areas. Occasionally one will be posted on the calendar. Otherwise, only interested members will be contacted by email a few days in advance of a mosey activity. As stated above, let your ideas for a mosey location be noticed. We will let the rest of the local membership know about the visit to your favorite location.**

## DUES ARE DUE

Use the form on the last page of this document and send to Paula – address on form.

### September

**8 Monday Regular Membership Meeting**, 7 PM Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Lea Langdon will present her outdoor classroom achievements this year.

**19 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts**, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information.

### 20 – 22 September state fieldtrip/meeting

**[Central] Fulton Prairie Fork CA, Prairie Garden Trust, and others.**

Everyone is welcome, especially guests. Our meetings will be held at the Community Room in the Callaway Electric Cooperative Building. Please join us! Our Field Trips will include some remaining and restored prairie habitat rare in this part of the state.

**Flora of MO 3 is available for signing at the meeting!**

**See September Petal Pusher and MONPS Facebook page for details.**

### October

**17 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts**, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information.

### November

**11 Monday Membership Meeting**, 7 PM Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd.

**17 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts**, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information.

**Winter State Meeting - December 7, 2013 – Columbia, Dunn-Palmer Herbarium**  
Everyone is welcome, especially guests.

**Thanks to Glenn Pickett, Ann Wakeman and Lea Langdon for their submissions. Thanks to Doug Miller for keeping the website up to date. We would like to get announcements, impressions, species accounts, poems, links to scientific articles or other creative nature writing from you, too.**

## Announcements:

### July Meeting Minutes

*Submitted by Ann Wakeman temporary secretary*

The regular meeting of the Hawthorn Chapter of Missouri Native Plant Society was held July 13 at the Unitarian Church in Columbia. Richard Guyette, dendrologist from the Missouri Tree Ring Lab gave a presentation on Acoustic Expression of Tree Growth. He has been assigning auditory tones to the width of tree rings, higher the pitch, the wider the growth ring as a result of faster growth during wetter years. These sequences are then played rapidly and create regular rhythmical expression of the changes in weather. We could hear the cycle of the drought and wet seasons. He is considering using tones produced from several different trees to arrange into an interesting 'musical' piece. The acoustic expression of tree rings can give us the sense of time, life and environment like few other organisms can. He is also looking for the 'Mozart' tree, one that could be played as a symphony.

Announcements: Hawthorn Chapter and Wild Ones will set up our booth at the Organic Gardening Workshop at Bradford Farm August 1 from 1 - 6pm. Becky will present a powerpoint and explanation on coordinating native plants with vegetables and crop plants to attract pollinators. Nancy Brakhage and her out of town family visited Prairie Garden Trust, as well as attending an impromptu field trip to Tucker Prairie.

### Petal Pusher: Proposed Change in Delivery

*Submitted by Becky Erickson Petal Pusher Editor*

Please don't be annoyed that you will read a similar article in the upcoming Petal Pusher. I just want to make sure everyone understands: YOU need to tell us what you want. We need to know if you can do without the PP delivered in print on paper.

As Petal Pusher [PP] Editor, I have been sending PP to members of Hawthorn Chapter via email since I started with the January 2013 issue. You were able to get it with color photos and get it early enough to plan for state field trips.

If all of us with email accounts accept E-delivery, we could save the state over \$1500, possibly \$2000 per year in printing and postage costs. As we transition into E-delivery of PP, [I must have your permission to stop receiving the printed, mailed, paper copy from St Louis.](#) There will be another announcement in the September PP with directions on how to accomplish this transition. PLEASE respond as quickly as possible

I believe the BOD wants paper copies to continue to be mailed until they are satisfied the E-delivery is satisfactorily received by most of the membership. So you will get both for a while. Hopefully the transition will be complete by January 2014. Be patient; old wheels turn slowly.

### Project Table is still available ONLY \$100

Large sturdy plywood table with folding legs. So you can store it against a wall. Well made by a cabinet maker. 3' by 8' with 4" skirts for stability; all varnished. The pocket change requested [only \$100; really worth about \$400] goes back into the chapter educational grant fund. Call Becky 657-2314 for viewing and pickup.

*Exchange screen time for green time!*

### *In Memory: Dr. Clair Kucera*

Clair Leonard Kucera, 91, died Saturday, July 27, 2013, at Lenoir Woods. He was a retired professor of ecology at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, September 8, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Columbia. [The entire obit is in the Columbia Tribune. ] Clair was an inspiring force in ecology.

### September Meeting Program

Last year, Lea Langdon facilitated the writing of a grant to the Hawthorne chapter of the Native Plant Society, for the second grade teachers at Midway Heights Elementary. At our September meeting, Lea will describe how the Columbia Outdoor Classroom Project and the teachers at the school used this grant to teach about monarchs and other pollinators, and about the importance of milkweeds and other native plants.

### Sept 19 Lunch at RagTag

Meet for lunch 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Lunches have been well attended with lively discussions. Hope to see you there.

### Our Network

Look for announcements by email of activities with Missouri Prairie Foundation [MPF], WildOnes [WO] Columbia Audubon Society [CAS] and training from Stream Team and MO Master Naturalists. Other pertinent information comes from Plant Conservation Alliance [PCA]. Direct membership in all of these is free or nominal and can bring you a wealth of information on natural environmental issues. You won't have this source forever.

### Don't forget to keep a

**journal** of first leaves, first flowers, first seed and report it to Bud Burst. Search the NRCS Plant Database on line for plant identification and habitat needs.



## Rock Bridge High School Rain Garden and Seed Collection Opportunity

Submitted by Glenn Pickett; photos by G. Pickett

Spring 2006,  
non- functional  
detention basin



For those of you that are not familiar with the Rock Bridge High School Rain Garden, it was a project of my Environmental Science classes, starting in the fall of 2006 and continuing through the spring of 2008. The school district had just completed a classroom addition to the Career Center adjacent to RBHS in the fall of 2005. This required the construction of an additional parking lot, which was placed on the northeast corner of the RBHS grounds. The engineers designed it with a storm water detention basin on the south side of the lot. Shortly after it was completed and already badly eroded, I scratched around for grant money to develop a constructed Rain Garden. I managed to get grant funds from the City of Columbia (which was an EPA pass through grant) and from MDC. Students in my classes were involved in planning and in planting over two years. Now, when students who were involved with the project return to visit their high school, they do remark about what a great experience it was, and swell just a little with pride about their unique addition to the school grounds.

Since completion of the Rain Garden in 2008, some science classes, as well as art classes have utilized the Rain Garden as an educational resource. Lea Langdon and I have been the primary caretakers, trying to stay ahead of the weeds and the invasives. On numerous occasions over the years, Master Naturalists, Gardeners, Americorps folks, and students from classes at Rock Bridge and the Career Center, as well as other service groups have provided maintenance help. As more classroom additions have been completed to the Career Center, more rain gardens/detention basins have been built to handle the storm water runoff at other locations around the complex.

At the present time there are five rain gardens on the Rock Bridge High School/Career Center campus. They all function pretty well, though some have gone without the weed/plant management that Lea and I have provided to the Rain Garden in the front of Rock Bridge. Go on out and take a look. Then wander around through the parking lots on the north side of the school and back to the baseball field, and you will see other rain gardens ripe for volunteer help.



Planting the drainage basin and upland area Spring 2007

Construction completed Aug '06



Please feel free to harvest seed from the Rock Bridge High School Rain Garden in Columbia. As they mature, there is an abundance of Prairie Blazing Star, Prairie Dock, Grey-headed Coneflower, Slender Mountain Mint, Rose Mallow, Culver's Root, and Aromatic Aster. We don't need any more of these species, so help yourselves to the seed as they mature. Please leave all other species alone. The vast majority of these plants were from Missouri Wildflower Nursery and Prairie Hill Farm. If you feel so inclined, pull a weed or two as you harvest seed. Questions? Call Glenn Pickett 573-445-1227.



**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)

*Don't wait until your name is removed from the mailing list. Send your dues to Paula now.*

\*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

**MEMBERSHIP FORM Missouri Native Plant Society-Hawthorn Chapter**

**July 1 through June 30. Dues are Due NOW!**

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.**

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