



Newsletter

Volume 38, Number 11

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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. We would like to read about announcements, impressions, species accounts, photos, poems, links to scientific articles or other creative nature writing from you, too. Send submissions before the 26th of every month to:

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This is the 38th year Hawthorn has supplied a newsletter to chapter members.

November 2023

Future Activities Calendar

Our traditional meeting time is second Mondays at 6:30.

And social lunches are third Thursdays 11:30.

Lea's volunteers leaslist@gmail.com Call or text: 573-864-7647

Wed. Nov 1st 1-3 PM CELN (Columbia Early Learning North) 2191 East Smiley Lane

We are mostly collecting seed at this time, both to slow the spread of aggressive species and to share with other schools. Some opportunities are still here to interact with the preschoolers if desired. This may be our last scheduled work party here for the season.

Sun, Nov 5th 10 Am-1 PM MKT trail near the intersection of Providence and Stewart. Missouri Conservation Corps and Missouri River Relief will be teaming up to remove invasive honeysuckle along Columbia's scenic MKT trail in downtown Columbia. They will provide tools, training, direction, water, and hot coffee. Volunteers will need to provide work gloves, a water bottle, and energy.

Parking for this event is available in the WG-14 lot immediately south of Stewart Road on the west side of Providence, and in the Flat Branch Playground parking lot just west of 5th and Elm. The sign up form is at: <https://bit.ly/mkt-honeysuckle-signup> For more information contact Project Director Stephen Bybee at Missouri Conservation Corps, by emailing missouriconservationcorps@gmail.com

Mon 13 Nov. Regular members' meeting. There will not be a meeting in November. We will have a meeting 11 December. This meeting is important because we must elect officers. Details later.

Thurs 16 Nov 11:30 am Lunch: [First Watch Restaurant](#) at Stadium and Worley with plenty of free parking on the NW side of Columbia. We use a private room away from the main dining room. Click on that link to see the location on a map. This is an opportunity to get to know us, share nature stories, swap seeds, and bring pots back to Becky for the nursery.

Friday 8 Dec most of midday, [details next month] Nadia is offering her greenhouse space at LU for wreath making and other holiday creativity. It is a large space where we can make a mess and socialize with several similar people. Before you 'clean up' your garden, cut stems, leaves and fruit of plants that could be attractive in a dried arrangement to bring and share; shake out seed. If you want to make a wreath, you need to bring a base, craft wire, large pins, clippers, ribbon, maybe a glue gun if you have one. Some of us will bring cedar branches. Please DO NOT bring tall goldenrod or multiflora rose hips!

We will have a meeting 11 December. This meeting is important because we must elect officers. Details later.

Thurs 21 Dec 11:30 am Lunch: take a winter break to be with friends for an hour! [First Watch Restaurant](#) at Stadium and Worley with plenty of free parking on the NW side of Columbia. We use a private room away from the main dining room. Click on that link to see the location on a map. This is an opportunity to get to know us, share nature stories, swap seeds, and bring pots back to Becky for the nursery.

Membership Renewals

The MONPS state webmaster, Jerry Barnabee, has built a system to remind you thru a personal email that the time has come to renew your membership dues. Please-Please pay attention to this notice which will come to you near the anniversary of the date you joined. So if you joined, as an example in October or May, that is the time you will get your reminder. Jerry provides a link to PayPal. I believe there is an option to pay for 1 to 5 years and at whatever donation level you deem appropriate. In truth: we welcome your renewal any time you remember.

Fireflies are vanishing but you can help protect them

Excellent article in NatGeo Newsletter By Amy McKeever Published 1 June 2023

Retrieved 29 July 2023: Experts offer tips on how to make a home for the beloved bioluminescent insects in your own backyard—from creating a microhabitat to keeping your lights off.

[From editor:] Maybe 8 years ago my woods lit up like a wonderland light show for almost a week. I never remember this display before or since in 70 years. Wish I knew the recipe – maybe the rain cycle and perfect temperature.

Hunting Season Dates

Archery season starts 15 Sept. Some counties have firearms hunting on weekends starting in early Oct. Get more information on regulation changes and other details for deer hunting from MDC's 2023 Fall Deer & Turkey Regulations and Information booklet, available where permits are sold and online at mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/deer.

We all enjoy walks in wild areas during the cooler fall days. Please be respectful of hunters by walking during midday hours and wear a lightweight iridescent vest [orange or yellow]. We want human hunters to take as many deer as they legally can because there are not enough natural predators to keep deer numbers at a healthy level. Too many deer spread many diseases. Too many deer eat many native plants into local extinction.

State parks are usually devoid of hunters, but check ahead at the park office to see if a managed hunt is scheduled for the dates you want to go there to explore.

MPF/GN Webinars

Be sure to check on the MPF/GN site [under Activities](#) for webinars before **alternate Wednesday afternoons at 4pm**. Our chapter pays to be a member so these on-line activities are free to you as a member. However, if you feel they are giving you a good education, a donation is welcomed. [Next MPF/GN webinars 4pm](#) The MPF/GN newsletter will remind you of [these events: Sign Up!](#)

--Adopt a [Regal Fritillary Butterfly](#) or a [Brown-Belted Bumble Bee](#) and help protect prairie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We want to announce our deepest gratitude to Louise for her many years of dedicated service keeping all the books and printed materials offered at our booth organized and up to date. Carol-Leigh has offered to take this job. She is very active with Weavers Guild and River Relief, so would like an assistant to help only a few days per year. Call her for details: 573-874-2233.

Thank you to Elena, Becky, Lea, Karen, and Paula for submissions for this newsletter. There would not be so much good information and history if it were not for you. We would love to post thoughts and ideas from YOU, yes YOU reading this, too.

Chapter Activity Reports from Becky

Harvest Dinner at Elena's was the program for the chapter meeting 9 October. Considering fluctuating autumn weather, it was a delightful evening with the welcomed pit fire Pat provided. Ten members took on the challenge of providing food made from species native to the Western Hemisphere >400 years ago. There were various dishes from the expected variations on basic spiced beans/corn/squash dishes to 'black&blue berry' cobbler, persimmon bread, with sides of avocado w/blue corn chips, and chocolate-pecan bark. Meeting minutes will be published before the 11 December meeting when we NEED to elect officers; candidates announced soon.

Bonnie was an exceptionally organized host for **her yard tour 14 October**. She offered hot cider to buffer the crisp day. She showed the group of three a short lap-top slide show of the property in 2009 when they moved in. Since then they have removed two Chinese elms from the back yard and installed a landscape quality rock wall and raingarden in place of the curb ditch. They have replaced almost half of their sod yard with patches of natives. A few of the natives 'appeared naturally' thanks to lack of abuse and Bonnie's recognition. The only suggestions were to suppress aggressive *Solidago altissima* and *Equisetum*.

Our Third Thursday Lunch was lively as usual. We shared family events, garden happenings and swapped flower seed. Please find time to join us every third Thursday thru this winter at FirstWatch at Stadium & Worley [NW Columbia]

Personal Service from Xerces

I wanted to let you know about an exciting new benefit available to you, to say thank you for helping us protect invertebrates. As a Xerces donor, you can now [request a call](#) from a Xerces Ambassador. Ambassadors are expert volunteer conservationists who volunteer with Xerces to share their knowledge and support Xerces members.

Whether you want to talk about creating habitat in your yard, bumble bee ID, or brainstorming ways to engage your community further, requesting a call from a Xerces Ambassador is a complimentary service we hope you'll enjoy. Consider it your personal invertebrate hotline.

You can [request a call here](#) and an Ambassador will call you at a time that works for you.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Best,
Melissa Manuel, Engagement Specialist 503-468-6602 (she/hers)



[Protecting Pollinators](#) [Conserving Endangered Species](#) [Reducing Pesticide Use & Impacts](#)

Greenbelt Land Trust Partnership

Offered for consideration by Elena, our chapter president

See the October Hawthorn newsletter for explanation of partnership. See secretary's minutes posted in December for decision.

Challenge MONPS

See the October Hawthorn newsletter for explanation of partnership. See secretary's minutes posted in December for decision.

LEARNING AND SHARING THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

Offered by Lea

Volunteering to help at one of the many native plantings around the Columbia area in parks, trails, and in local schoolyards can be a service to the community, but it can also be a great way to learn more about native plants, as well as about invasive species which are becoming a significant threat to our ecosystems. From pollinator gardens and rain gardens to prairie, woodland, and trail-side areas, there are many different types of local plantings, and they all require some maintenance in order to thrive and remain useful for wildlife and as places of learning.

Lea helps coordinate volunteer opportunities in these areas, by collecting and sending out a bi-weekly (or so) email listing of upcoming coordinated gardening efforts. Lea organizes many of them; some are posted by others. At schools, we sometimes work with students, doing "Service-Learning". Other times we work without students. We help maintain habitats and gardens so that students can come in to plant, or explore the wildlife that is there.

Many Native Plant Society members attend these work parties. By working alongside other native plant enthusiasts, you can learn by doing, and you can ask questions or share what you know with others. What's that plant? What conditions does it thrive in? When should it be planted? What's the problem with invasive species and what can we do about them? Etc.

If you have questions, or would like to join in these activities contact Lea to get on her email list. Leaslist@gmail.com or text or call 573-864-7647.

Mulch Mania at Our Adopted Garden

Explained by Elena. EV photos

If you haven't ever done so, please come by and admire the Hawthorn Adopt-A-Spot at the NW corner of Providence and Nifong in Columbia just behind the city recycling bins north of Planet Fitness. Cindy has been organizing work and clean up days at the spot for several years and we are seeing the amazing results from all the hard work by Hawthorn members and volunteers from the Master Naturalist program.



Thanks for Cindy's hard work and leadership - she got a fabulous group of volunteers gathered to work and they got so much done despite threatening rain. In this photo you can see where our volunteers added mulch around the south west end of our adopt-a-spot with the new sign donated by the city.

After the successful Mulch Mania today things are looking good!

As flowers ripen into seeds, you are welcome [encouraged!] to collect from this garden for your own.

Paula found a new [Wildflower ID site!](#)

People who need color photos will like this one. [I prefer line drawings because they show better details of field characters.] Hope this helps you learn different species and their preferred habitats. With So Many species to cover - it will forever be a work in progress. It seems a good chart on asters and goldenrods is almost complete.

Use this to compliment MissouriPlants.com [<<< In bulletin board next page]

Excerpt from the June PP

The organization of MissouriPlants.com

is designed to accommodate users ranging from neophytes to experts. For the latter, there is a full listing of species links according to scientific name, and also a listing organized by family. For the beginner, there are pages organized by flower color and leaf arrangement, similar to the organizational concept of most wildflower books. These links will quickly transport the user to the relevant species page. All species pages maintain a navigational pane at the left to facilitate movement within the site. It is truly So Simple!

If there is anything different you want to participate in, please give us ideas for new activities.

Paula wants to share this good [information on identification of ticks](#), which ticks carry which diseases, and how to tell how long a tick has been attached by the size of the tick. All important information for the doctor to know if you are sick.

Change & Persistence Among Prairie Grasses

Text and photos by Dan Carter retrieved from Prairie Enthusiasts [not dated].

There are many misconceptions about prairies that cloud restoration, reconstruction, and management. Prominent among these is the tallgrass prairie “big four,” a concept that situates big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), and little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) atop the dominant hierarchy of plants on tallgrass prairie. The “big four” has far-reaching influence on grassland management, scientific study, and seed mix design. It’s Tallgrass prairie after all!

The “big four” are indeed co-dominant in many places where prairie vegetation occurs today. But, except for little bluestem, they were not historically the most dominant grasses on much of the prairie landscape, nor are they most dominant on many of the best remaining old-growth prairies.

John Curtis (1959)¹ described the composition of the least disturbed old-growth prairies in Wisconsin. Big bluestem was present on all studied mesic prairies, but porcupine grass (*Hesperostipa spartea*), Leiberg’s panic grass (*Dichanthelium leibergii*), and prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*) were the most frequent grasses.

[Click on the title to get the whole explanation about WHY the shift in dominant species in the modern prairie community.]

What Climate Change Does to My October Garden

by Margaret Renkl NYTimes Opinion Oct. 9, 2023

In Middle Tennessee, October is supposed to mean golden light and falling leaves and clear nights cool enough to make you spread a blanket across the foot of the bed in case the chill turns to genuine cold. October doesn’t normally bring an explosion of butterflies. The time for butterflies is September, with its mild warmth and blooming roadside flowers — snakeroot, asters, ironweed and the splendid goldenrod — all in their fullest glory.

[Click on the title to read the full **[really full]** article.]

How plants communicate with each other when in danger

By Kasha Patel; Washington Post, 21 Oct 2023

[Ed. Note: I sent this to a few of my science nerd friends.

Carol [CEO of MPF/GN] replied: “Wow, this is so cool! Thanks for sharing, Becky.” Hope you find it ‘cool’, too.]

The study found injured plants emit certain chemical compounds, which can infiltrate a healthy plant’s inner tissues and activate defenses from within its cells. A better understanding of this mechanism could allow scientists and farmers to help fortify plants against insect attacks or drought long before they happen.

The study marks the first time researchers have been able to “visualize plant-to-plant communication,” said Masatsugu Toyota, senior author of the study, which was published Tuesday in Nature Communications. “We can probably hijack this system to inform the entire plant to activate different stress responses against a future threat or environmental threats, such as drought.”

[Click on the title to read the whole story . . . less insecticides?]

Nature really is good medicine. Science can explain why.

By Stacey Colino. Photographs By Lucas Foglia. Published July 6, 2023.

Retrieved from NatGeo Newsletter 28 October 2023

Reduced blood pressure and improved cognition and mental health are just a few of the documented benefits of spending time in “green” and “blue” spaces.

Bumblebees in my yard this summer

Data and photos from Karen Albright



A species of concern due to precipitous drop in numbers, Southern Plains bumblebee has been chilled to facilitate data collection.



American bumblebee sharing a native thistle with a butterfly.

We moved from Wisconsin to Ashland in 2017 - to a neighborhood built on an agriculture field on the west side of Ashland. So it is sterile: privacy fences, fescue lawns, Bradford pear trees and a few yew and rose bushes, but way too fertile for native plants. I started right away to replace the lawn with native flowers and add native trees. Our overgrown oasis has attracted amazing numbers of wildlife beyond deer and fox.

In 2023 I had 6 species of Bumblebees that I got pictures of in my yard. I was surprised since in the past few years I've only had 2-3. Another proof of 'build it and they will come'.

I've been collecting data for the MO Bumblebee Atlas the last 3 summers so have gotten experience IDing bees in the field, in various habitats. The following list are the sightings in my yard.

The following are listed in my iNaturalist entries the first one was.

1) May 21 was a two-spotted (*Bombus bimaculatus*) on *Penstemon digitalis*.

2) June 7 I recorded Brown-belted (*Bombus griseocollis*).

June 14 still seeing both on native *Hydrangea*.

June 20 both on *Monarda fistulosa*

The last brown belted recorded is July 1.

3) June 29 Common Eastern (*Bombus impatiens*) on native *Hydrangea*.

Sept 17 on small palafox (*Palafoxia* sp.).

Sept 26 on *Campanula americana*.

At that same time (6/29) I was still seeing Brown-belted but not the two-spotted.

4) Southern plains (*Bombus fraterculus*) a species of concern.

Aug 10 on partridge pea (*Senna fasciculata*) also Aug 14.

5) American Bumble Bee (*Bombus pensylvanicus*) a species of concern.

Aug 17 on native thistles (*Cirsium* sp.).

Aug 28 on Blue lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*).

Sept 21 and 26 on field thistle—this is easiest flower to get good pics, it is taller and bees stay on it longer so you can get head and rear shots. On other flowers they disappear into them or fly away quickly.

6) Black and gold (*Bombus auricomus*) 8/27/23 on native thistle (*Cirsium* sp.). This is only picture.

Carpenter bees are not Bumble bees, they are about the same size as 4, 5 and 6 but rear is shiny smooth not hairy.

Topics for This Year's Petal Pusher

the state MONPS newsletter

Petal Pusher Topics for 2023

Due date	Pub Date	Theme	Contributors
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Dec 20	Jan 1st	Winter Botany: Solicit articles from WGSS members on winter plant ID. (buds, rosettes, etc.)	
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Send submissions attached in Word format.
Send photos attached separately in jpg format.

To: Pam Barnabee pamela.barnabee@gmail.com

You don't need to be an expert, but if you have good repeatable experience as a naturalist on any of these subjects, you are welcome to offer your knowledge to the rest of us.

If we have members who are curious about any of these topics, Michelle Pruitt [michelle.pruitt@gmail.com] is willing to do an amateur proofread for you if that would be helpful. Send to her early!
ALWAYS - 20th of even numbered months. If you don't understand subjects, parameters, or submission format, contact Michelle Bowe, PP editor MBowe@MissouriState.edu.

- Potential Emerging Invaders. **Have you seen a new plant invader?** Someone from MoIP as contributor; Malissa Briggler volunteered. Any one of us could study invasive plants; MPF Journal featured invasives during 2020. Just search 'invasive plants' and pick one to report on.

- Favorite Natural Areas. Suggested to also have chapters solicit articles from their members. **This means YOU can write about your favorite Natural Area**

- Better Know a Genus. **These are species accounts.** You observe/research a species or genus and describe the whole life cycle including preferred habitat and vectors/predators.

Regular Recurring Columns:

Conundrum Corner Contributors needed!

Invasive Tip of the Month Tips to identify and eradicate invasives, with a different species in each issue. Contributors needed!

Other Recurring Columns: **Casey's Kitchen** Casey Burks

Name Change of the Month Justin Thomas. Other volunteers welcome.

Poetry Corner or Quotation Corner Send suggestions for poems or quotes for inclusion. Note that for poems, we must have permission from the publisher.

Where are we going Features we will see on the next field trip. Malissa Briggler?

And here's where you can become newsletter famous by submitting your questions: <https://monativeplants.org/ask-a-question>

Ask a question Questions from website, answered. Facilitated by Jerry Barnabee.

Please Step Forward For Service

Please contact one of the officers 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, to man our information booth at events such as Earth Day and Bradford Plant Sale, and to care for native gardens in public places.

MEMBERSHIP FORM Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter

How were you attracted to join MONPS?

Membership runs from the date you join. You must be a member of the State Missouri Native Plant Society (MONPS) in order to join a chapter. You may send state and chapter dues to our membership chair [presently vacant], or sign up on the MONPS site and pay by Paypal.

Please check membership category you desire:

Minimum required annual membership per household is \$10 for students or \$15 for non-students [state+chapter]

*These amounts include both state and chapter dues

____ Student \$10.00*

____ Goldenrod \$15.00*

____ Sunflower \$30.00*

____ Blue Bell \$55.00*

____ Blazing Star \$105.00*

____ Surcharge for paper state Petal Pusher by mail (+\$10.00)

____ Chapter only \$5.00 – this option is for members who already belong to State and another chapter

____ Amount Paid

Make checks payable to:

Missouri Native Plant Society

Mail payment and this form to:

Diane Privitt

3810 Koala Dr

Columbia MO 65202

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Home _____

Cell _____

E-mail: _____

Chapter newsletters and messages will be sent by email