

# Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Newsletter

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April 2007

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The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Newsletter is published monthly. To be included in future publications, please send your submissions to:

Newsletter Editor: Judy Ward Contact information above

#### **Future Activities**

**March 31:** Field trip to Rocky Hollow Natural Area in Monroe Co. We will leave from the MDC parking lot on College Ave at 10:00 am. Bring a sack lunch.

**April 4, 11, 18, 25:** Join Randal Clark for wildflower walks every Wednesday at 5:30 pm. Meet in the Devil's Ice Box Parking lot at Rock Bridge State Park.

**April 14:** Native Plant Sale at Bradford Farm. 9 - 12 Please plan to help with our booth. 'Early bird' watching tour will be from 7 to 9 am. See article inside for more information.

**April 21:** Field Trip to Warren Taylor's property in Callaway Co. to see spring ephemerals. Depart from the Missouri Department of Conservation parking lot on College Ave at 1:00 pm

**April 22:** Earth Day Festival - Downtown Columbia. 12 to 7:00 Please plan to help with our booth. We will be at E23 and E24.

April 22: Newsletter items are due.

**April 26:** Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts! 11:30 am at Kayotea, 912 E. Broadway. All are invited.

**April 27 -29:** State Board Meeting, Oregon County. We want to try a car pool to this meeting in April. If interested contact Paula

**May 6:** A trip to the "Mayan Ruins" on Silver Fork Creek, in Boone Co., to see the Bluebells. We will stop for lunch at Heuer's Country Store. Depart at 10:00 am from the MDC parking lot.

**May 12?**: Tentative date for a trip to see Jim and Andrea Kennedy's Lady Slipper Orchids in Callaway Co. We will go when they reach peak bloom, which varies from year to year. If interested call Paula at 573-474-4225 or email at <a href="mailto:prpeters.com">prpeters.com</a>. I will send out an email, or call when they are ready.

**May 14:** Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Speaker and topic to be announced.

For more information contact Paula at 573-474-4225

# So what happened at our March meeting? –Jean Graebner

A program full of fascinating facts about the only mammal that truly flies was a special treat for members attending the regular meeting of Hawthorn Chapter on Monday, March 12. Sybil Amelon, research wildlife biologist with the Northern Research Station of the United States Forestry Service, presented a laptop program, but the real stars of the show were the four Brown Bats she brought with her. Led by Miss Pinky, the one she has had the longest, they gave us an up close and personal look at these multi-talented animals.

Amelon specializes in bat research but also does bat rehabilitation and education. She used Miss Pinky, who seemed to enjoy her role as model, to let us feel how very soft her hair is, to demonstrate to us that bats are very fastidious animals and to show us her wing span. (Possibly, one reason Miss Pinky was so cooperative was that her mistress kept feeding her meal-worms.) One of the most interesting demonstrations was when Amelon used an amplifier to enable us to hear the sounds the bats were making—the key to echo-location. The sound waves of these ultrasonic cries bounce off solid objects and the echoes travel back to the bat's ears. thus keeping the bat informed of the presence and distance of the obstacles. Or, as in the case of insects, the prev.

In explaining the vital role bats play in the environment Amelon gave us some statistics: World wide, bats are important natural enemies of night-flying insects. A single little brown bat can catch 1,200 mosquito-sized insects in just one hour. A colony of 150 big brown bats can protect local farmers from up to 33 million or more rootworms each summer. Tropical bats are keystone species in rain forest ecosystems where they pollinate flowers and disperse seeds. Many important agricultural plants rely on bats for pollination and seed dispersal.

A break for refreshments followed the program.

#### **Business meeting:**

President Judy Ward began the business meeting with the election of a treasurer. Paula Peters was unanimously elected. Judy then read a letter from Becky Erickson about the Stadium Project. Becky wrote that MODOT had approved of the project. She also wrote that letters to adjacent landowners had gone out and that when she had replies we would be informed.

The subject of the awards presented annually by MONPS board was brought up. A discussion of who might be recommended by our chapter and how information might be gathered followed. We have until April 10 to make the nomination.

Meeting was adjourned.



## Don't miss those early bloomers

Many of the earliest spring wildflowers including trout lily, blood root, spring beauty, cut-leaf toothwort, and Dutchman's breeches are blooming now. So I hope you get a chance to get out and enjoy them, before it's too late!



## Native Plant Sale on April 14 will be more than a sale!

#### **PROGRAM**

7-9 am Early Bird watch tour- Sponsored by Columbia Audubon. Please RSVP- by calling Nadia at 289-2018 9am-1 pm Sale

#### **Demonstrations and Seminars**

9:30 am Gardening in critical sites- Amy Hamilton-plant and seed producer

10:00 am Preparing and maintaining formal beds- Merv Wallace-plant and seed producer

10:30am Raingarden program- Scott Hamilton and Terry Frueh-Urban Conservationists

11:00 am Raingarden demonstration- MU students: Sarah Tajden and Krista Marshall

Come and see our raingarden #3 recently installed (see diagram attached)

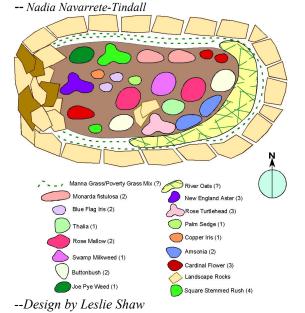
4 local native seed and plant producers, nature book sale, educational booths, and more.

#### Address:

4968 Rangeline Road, 65201-8973, Columbia, MO or visit: http://aes.missouri.edu/bradford/

or call Thresa Chism or Tim Reinbott: 573-884-7945

Refreshments will be served-EVERYONE IS WELCOME



### Share expertise at ShowMe Yards & **Neighborhoods Field Day**

Frank Gordon, Stormwater Outreach Coordinator at Boone County Public Works, who gave us a program in July 2006, is requesting our help for a Field Day.

During the field day, nine yards will be open to the public, four of these yards will feature native plants. Frank is requesting our help in addressing questions about native plant use. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to advocate native plant use in gardens and landscaping and to strengthen our collaborative relationships! The event is Saturday, May 19th, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Please let me know if you can help for any part of the day. Although Frank suggests a simple one person /yard at a time arrangement, other arrangements including buddying-up can be used. I can prepare a simple brochure about Native plants to pass out if there is support for it. Contact me wardjud@gmail.com or 449-0341 for more information or to sign up.

## Spring wildflower walks at

Rockbridge

Randal Clark will be leading his Spring Wildflower / Nature walks this year from March 21 to May 16.

Learn about native plants and their folklore and see Spring happen.

Meet every Wednesday at 5:30 at the Devil's Icebox parking lot of Rockbridge Memorial State Park.

This is his 25th year of leading the walks!

## **Progress update on Stadium Project**

#### In a nutshell:

- Becky Erickson has received the permit from MODOT and we have met with the primary adjacent landowners.
- We will be working around the rainy days and notice of workdays might be short, so pick up that stylish orange vest today.
- Cutting and treating the weedy woody vegetation will be the first order of business.
- Contact Becky to get involved, 573-657-2314 home, beckyerick@socket.net

## MEMBERSHIP FORM Missouri Native Plant Society—Hawthorn Chapter

July 1	through June 30.	Name		
MONTO	ana ani Nativa Dlant	Address		
Make check payable to Mis Society.	ssouri Native Plant			
Send check and this form to:		Phone: Evening		
Paula Peters			Day	
2216 Grace Ellen Dr Columbia, MO 65202		Email:		
Student (\$11.00) Regular (\$16.00) Contributing (\$26.00 ) Life (\$200.00) Includes both Chapter and State dues.		Do you want to receive email updates?		
		Method of receiving chapter newsletter: (circle preference)		
		Email	Regular mail	Both

Missouri Native Plant Society Hawthorn Chapter Judy Ward, Newsletter Editor 302 Maplewood Drive Columbia, MO 65203