Petal Pusher

November-December 2013 NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY Volume 28 No.6

" . . . to promote the enjoyment, preservation, conservation, restoration, and study of the flora native to Missouri."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONPS December Meeting

The next Missouri Native Plant Society membership meeting will be held 7 December [Saturday] at Dunn-Palmer Herbarium in Columbia starting at 10 am. Bring a sack lunch or cash to order sandwiches, usually from Jimmy John's. Primarily a planning discussion for field trips in 2014 – bring your best suggestions; do some research.

Directions from east: Exit I-70 at US 63; south to Stadium [763]; west to traffic light at College; south [on Rock Quarry Road] about 300 yards; right into circular parking lot in front of large, low stone building.

Directions from west: Exit I-70 at Stadium [763]; south then east to traffic light at College; south [on Rock Quarry Road] about 300 yards; right into circular parking lot in front of large, low stone building.

Directions from north or southeast: from US63 exit at Stadium [763]; west to traffic light at College; south [on Rock Quarry Road] about 300 yards; right into circular parking lot in front of large, low stone building.

Contact one of the officers with questions: information in masthead.

PETAL PUSHER BY EMAIL

From Becky Erickson PP editor.

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. They have all given me a positive response because they can get PP two to three weeks before they get the printed version, and they can see the photos in color!

Thirty members have sent me their permission. If all of MoNPS members with email accounts accept E-delivery, we could save the state over nearly $2000 per year in printing and postage costs. Then there are 1100 miles on vehicles to get printing and mailing done.

In order to accomplish this transition into E-delivery of PP, I must have your permission to stop receiving the printed, mailed, paper copy from St Louis. I must receive an email from you requesting to drop the paper copy and allowing me to add your name/address to my Petal Pusher email file. PLEASE respond to these directions. beckyerick711@centurylink.net

With your name in this file you might occasionally receive additional messages: updates on state-wide MONPS news, and links to interesting ecological articles in addition to the PP. "Occasionally" means maybe one or two per week. Maybe none for a month. You are free to delete anything you don't want.

Members who do not respond will continue to get the paper copy. I believe the BOD wants paper copies to continue to be mailed until they are satisfied the E-delivery is well 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. I will post the same announcement in the January PP.

If you want to see the vibrant colors in these photos, you will want the Petal Pusher to come to you by email.

Liatris pycnostachya and *Solidago missouriensis* near the southwest corner of Paintbrush CA, Pettis Co, 27 July.

Monarch on *Solidago speciosa* 20 Sept 13 *BE photos*

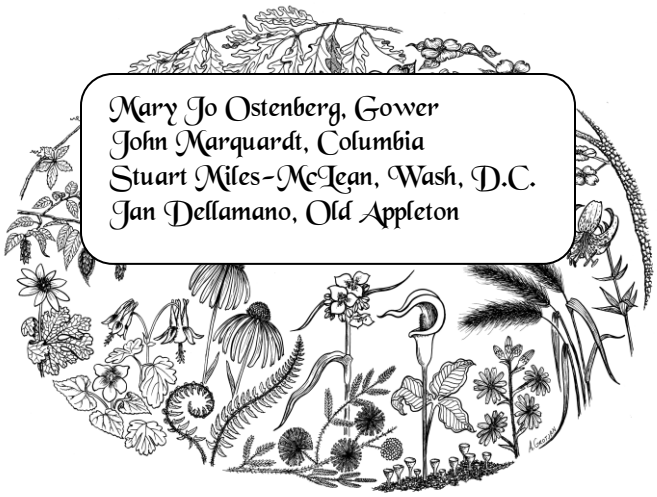
Dues are Due

Message from Ann Earley, Membership Chair

This is your last reminder for membership renewals for the July 2013-June 2014 year. Please check the top line of your mailing label. If it shows the date 20130630, your dues are now payable. When renewing, please remember to include your contact information <u>including email address</u>, and your society and chapter dues preferences.

If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Ann Earley (see back page for contact information). We value our members and urge you to renew today!

Welcome to New Members!



<u>Information on joining Missouri Native Plant Society</u>

<u>Society Dues</u>	Columbia = $6
Circle all that apply	Kansas City = 5
[Chapter dues additional >]	Osage Plains = 5
Student = $5	Ozarks = 5
Regular = 10	Southwest = 5
Contributing = 20	Perennis = 5
Life = 200	St Louis = 5
	Empire Prairie 5

Contribution to Hudson Grant Fund _$_____

All contributions are tax deductible
Make checks payable to **<u>MO Native Plant Society</u>**

Mail to: Missouri Native Plant Society
PO BOX 440353
ST. Louis MO 63244-4353

Name_____

Address_____

_____

9-digit
zip_____

Sometimes activities are changed at the last minute so we need a way to notify you.

Phone_____

Email_____

Flora of Missouri Volume 3

Still available at a discount price.

The man of the hour or perhaps of two decades: George sold and signed the third volume of "Steyermark's Flora of Missouri" at the State meeting in Fulton in September. There are still chances to get Flora 3 at a discounted price during October from the Botanical Garden or email George for more information.

In Memoriam: Clair Kucera, 1922-2013

Clair Leonard Kucera, 91, died Saturday, July 27, 2013, at Lenoir Woods. He was a retired professor of ecology at the University of Missouri.Services were Sunday, Sept. 8, at Unitarian Universalist Church in Columbia.

Dr. Kucera was born in Tama County, Iowa, on April 30, 1922, the son of Emma Krafka Kucera and Charles Kucera. He was 8 years old when the family moved to a farm near Parnell, Iowa, where he graduated from high school in 1940. He entered Iowa State University in Ames in September 1940, where he met the love of his life, Elizabeth Tremmel.

His studies were interrupted by World War II. Clair enlisted in the Army in 1943 and attended officer training school in Oklahoma. He rose to the rank of first lieutenant, attached to the 660th Field Artillery as a forward observer.

After his discharge from the Army in 1946, he returned to ISU on the G.I. Bill and married his sweetheart, Elizabeth. In 1947, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in forestry. He completed his studies at ISU with a doctorate in plant ecology.

He accepted a faculty position at the University of Missouri in 1950 as its first ecology professor. Clair was an internationally recognized authority on the ecology of tallgrass prairies. He published more than 60 articles in prestigious journals of the fields of plant ecology and plant systematics. Of his four books, "The Grasses of Missouri" has become a standard taxonomic treatise, and "The Challenge of Ecology," published in English and Spanish, was used as an introductory ecology textbook in many countries.

Clair's international reputation led to invitations to speak and serve as a consultant across the globe at institutes and universities in Czechoslovakia, England, Wales, Austria, Costa Rica, Kenya, Tanzania and the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador. He climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, the tallest mountain in Africa, while in Tanzania and always talked about returning to climb it again.

Clair identified a tract of native virgin prairie just east of Columbia, known as Tucker Prairie since 1852, when it was originally acquired by the Tucker family. This was the only large tract of native prairie remaining in Missouri north of the Missouri River. Recognizing the value of this prairie tract, he raised the money for its purchase by the university and for development of research facilities housed there. More research on grassland ecology has been conducted on this native Missouri prairie than any other in the Midwest.

Clair also taught a wide variety of courses including ecology, plant geography, plant taxonomy and basic environmental studies. Students from freshmen to graduates always enjoyed his classes and commented on his broad knowledge of plants, his enthusiasm for teaching, his humor and his genuine interest in his students. Clair served as mentor for 30 graduate students. From 1960-63, he was chairman of the Department of Botany.

In 1990, Clair was uniquely honored when he was selected as one of only ten MU Sesquicentennial Emeritus Professors for contributions to his profession and the university.

He was the beloved husband of Elizabeth; a loving father to his children, Ron, Kim, Carol and Gary; as well as a loving grandfather to Christina, Matthew and Megan. He will be missed by his brother, Bob; and his sisters, Dorothy, Mary and Elaine.

He will also be missed by his many students and colleagues at the University.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Missouri Prairie Foundation, online or c/o Martinsburg Bank, P.O. Box 856, Mexico, Mo., 65265. Online condolences may be left for the family at heartlandcremation.com.

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Posted in Obituaries on *Wednesday, July 31, 2013 2:00 pm.*

A Shooting star photographed at Tucker Priaire. A fine gift saved by Dr. Kucera

BE photo

CHAPTER REPORTS

St Louis Chapter

Submitted by Rex Hill, Chapter Representative

In August, Mike Leahy, Natural Areas Coordinator for the Missouri Department of Conservation, gave a talk on Missouri Natural Areas. In his talk, Mike gave examples from each of the natural divisions of the state including, prairies, forests, glades, and our southeast swamps. The talk was illustrated with great pictures and included examples of plants, animals, and terrestrial communities special to many of these areas that have been set aside in an attempt to preserve, at least, fragments representing our diverse heritage.

It's always a pleasure to hear from Mike who, like many of our dedicated state agency personnel, has remained committed to the ideals and principles of conservation and preservation regardless of what controversial issues that may be currently argued or discussed by others. The intriguing aspect of the Natural Areas program to me, and many others, has been the cooperative efforts involving many of our alphabet soup of public and private agencies including MDC, MODNR, USFS, USACE, NPS, MPF, TNC, LAD, and soon to be included, if Mingo National Wildlife Refuge is added, USFWS.

The September meeting brought us Stephen Callen, a PhD candidate at St. Louis University, who has chosen as his thesis focus the plant ***Pueraria montana* var. *lobata***, or **Kudzu**, known to many as "the plant that ate the South". Stephen has received grants and awards to study this plant, including NSF support and an award from a local St. Louis group, the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, WGNSS. While many others have looked at means for control, or possibly (in our dreams) eradication, of Kudzu, his work has focused on predicting the spread of the plant, particularly in light of changing global climactic conditions. It's always a pleasure to hear from a bright young scientist who has conscientiously dedicated his valuable time and effort to understand something as daunting as this most invasive species costing billions of dollars in control efforts and lost revenue from the damages caused by this plant.

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Second grade students playing Monarch Migration game as part of Hawthorn grant receipt. *LL Photo*

Hawthorn Chapter

Submitted by Lea Langdon Hawthorn Secretary

Hawthorn Chapter Awards Grant

At the Chapter September meeting, Lea Langdon presented information about the Columbia Outdoor Classroom Monarch Project Grant that she worked with this past year. The grant provided two second grade teachers at Midway Heights with $149 for milkweed and other native plants, butterfly nets, a pop-up butterfly "pavilion", and butterfly and caterpillar field guides. Three naturalists (Lea Langdon, Meredith Donaldson, and Lori McCurdy) supplied the educational component. These ladies are dedicated to sharing nature with teachers and students with the goal of increasing the use of outdoor classrooms for learning.

In early spring we modeled teaching about pollinators and monarchs with several activities. First we gave an interactive presentation about pollinators in general and monarchs in particular.

Several weeks later our next activity was supposed to be planting of milkweeds in their butterfly garden. The first thing we saw at the site was bright orange fencing surrounding the school's old prairie planting. Surprize!: a major construction project had started that would pave over their wildflower gardens, and there was no plan to rescue the many native plants that had been there for years. We changed our plan for that day and had the students play the "Monarch Migration Game". The students became migrating monarchs and had to attempt to survive the many hardships that real monarchs face on their long journeys to and from their winter homes in Mexico.

We helped with a plan to create a new wildflower garden out of harm's way. We organized a workday to rescue the plants and replant them safely. Right at the beginning of summer vacation, the second graders finally had a chance to plant milkweeds, and other native plants in the new garden. The teachers and students had learned how important milkweeds are for monarch caterpillars, but also how it is important to have a variety of native nectar plants, for adult monarchs and for other pollinators. The teachers are excited about sharing what they learned with their next classes, and hope to see some monarchs next year. They plan to have the students use I-Pads to record their activities, and to use the Monarch Watch website.

Perennis Chapter

Submitted by Allison Vaughn Chapter Representative

No report submitted – there were too many seed ticks this fall. Check in with www.semonps.org for any impromptu hikes or outings.

Osage Plains

Casey Burks, Chapter Representative

September 16th Osage Plains monthly meeting at the Henry County Library Friends Room. Jo Mohr helped us visualize the beauty of Hawaii with breathtaking photos, cultural and plant history plus serving us pineapple sherbet, macadamia cookies and Hawaiian punch. Jo's daughter lives in Hawaii which has given her the opportunity to learn many items of interest to share such as: mullein is usually the first plant to appear on a fresh lava flow, women used to be executed if they were caught eating a banana, there are only 12 letters in the alphabet (have you seen the tiny fish called Humuhumunukunukuapuaa?) and pineapple was brought to HW from South America in the 1800's.

During the business meeting,we discussed the best use of Dale Jennings memorial donations of $125 and decided to buy 2 books ($52 each) of the latest Steyermark "Flora of Missouri Vol.3" which George Yatskievych has spent the last 6+ years editing. These will be autographed by GY and donated to two libraries in Dale's honor. The remainder of the memorial (~$17) will be donated to the Hudson Fund (MoNPS Scholarships for Botany students). Jim and Dorothy Harlan received their Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education award from MoNPS for their dedicated service for many years as trip coordinators and patient teachers sharing their love of native plants. We are so privileged to have had them as treasured "rocks" in our Osage Plains group and they will be missed as they are in the process of moving to Springfield, MO. Yes, people in the Springfield branch are already rejoicing.

September 20th-September 22nd: Chapter members Theresa Cline, Dan Henehan, Bernie Henehan (+Rudy the JackRussell), Scott Lenharth and Casey Burks enjoyed the MoNPS meeting and field trips around the Fulton, Missouri area. Friday afternoon's field trip was at the Auxvasse Natural Area, an MDC hidden gem, guided by Mike Leahy. John Oliver patiently worked on teaching several of us the differences in goldenrod species currently blooming. Friday evening's program was given by George Yatskievych outlining groundwork laid by early botanists and especially Julian Steyermark who did the first overall quest to catalog all the plant species in Missouri. With all the additions of species, George has been working on updating Steyermark's work which now is incorporated in three huge volumes. Each volume has taken George over six years to complete. George graciously autographed all volumes presented to him. The third volume is the last. We all are wondering what George's next project will be.

On Saturday's field trips we were privileged to explore the beautiful Prairie Garden Trust (owned by the Domke Family) and then the Prairie Fork CA. We found several large larva of the giant swallowtail feeding on wafer ash (which I learned is actually in the citrus family). I saw my first pawpaw (not quite ripe), my first butternut tree (beautiful white bark), and ate ripe persimmons (yes these were ripe in September!). Sunday morning we found Tucker Prairie where Purple Gentians were blooming. Here I learned that the leaves of rattlesnake master were used by cave dwellers to make sandals.

[OP continued . . .]

There was also a pond where Rudy entertained us trying to catch frogs. Something for everyone!!

A heartfelt thank you to John Oliver, Brian Edmond, and all the others who helped coordinate the field trips, meetings and other information, especially after the original location needed to be changed.

I plan on attending the 4th Quarter (December 7th) MoNPS business meeting in Columbia where next year's trips are planned. I welcome any input, issues, concerns that OP members would like to send with me or perhaps you'd like to go also. Our Petal Pusher editor Becky Erickson beckyerick711@centurylink.net needs to know who is ready to receive their issues by email. Since the cost of printing and mailing is one of the biggest expenses, hopefully more and more people will switch from paper to email. Emailed issues will be received earlier, pictures can be viewed in color, and money can be used for better things than paper & postage. Please send Becky a message as to your preference: email or paper. Thanks!!

Empire Prairie Chapter (St Joseph)

Submitted by Steve Buback

As our inaugural meeting July 8th, the Empire Prairie Chapter decided to visit a private prairie in Clinton County – Cecil's Prairie. The Cecils were kind enough to welcome 12 members onto their property and allow us to traipse around on their 38 acres. With over 162 species reported from the property, this remnant was a joy to explore although the sultry evening kept us from spending too much time out of doors. The highlight of the walk was probably hundreds of stems of blooming Bunchflower, *Melanthium virginicum.*

Our August meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Sept 14th, Several members of our group joined the Missouri Prairie Foundation for a hike on the loess hill prairies at Squaw Creek NWR and McCormick CA. 24 people showed up for the hike with MPF members arriving from as far away as Springfield, IL. On the hikes, we saw a number of rare species including Hairy Grama, *Bouteloua hirsuta,* and Dotted Blazing Star, *Liatris punctata var. nebraskana.* After lunch, a number of enterprising hikers continued up a newer addition to Brickyard Yard Hill CA and enjoyed the views of Iowa and Nebraska while being surrounded by hundreds of stems of blooming blazing stars and thousands of pollinators enjoying their last meals.

Please Friend us on Facebook

And more information on our website
www.missourinativeplantsociety.org

Southwest

Submitted by Brian Edmond Chapter Representative,

Larry Wegmann, our esteemed chapter president, is stepping down to take over as president of the Southern Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. The Southern Council covers all or parts of Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. Congratulations, Larry!

As chapter vice-president, Michelle Bowe will be our new chapter president. Her duties begin immediately.

Fortunately for us, Larry has volunteered to remain our coordinator of volunteer activities with the Springfield - Greene County Botanical Center. If our chapter puts in at least 100 hours per year, we get use of the modern meeting facilities at the Center at no charge. Since many of our monthly meetings start with some garden maintenance, we have no trouble reaching this milestone each year.

Next year, our chapter is interested in volunteering our services to do a plant inventory of some neglected public land. Now that Volume 3 is out, we'll be able to identify everything we find! Max Brown will be scoping out some places this winter and we hope to begin this work next spring.

Be sure to watch the Facebook Events page and your email inbox for details about upcoming events!

"Go my Sons, burn your books. Buy yourself stout shoes. Get away to the mountains, the valleys, the shores of the seas, the deserts, and the deepest recesses of the Earth. In this way and no other will you find true knowledge of things and their properties." Peter Severinus, a16th Century Dane educator. *[BE photo]*

Change screen time to green time.

Get out, explore, learn firsthand.

Kansas City Chapter

Field Trip to Cedar Niles Prairie, Johnson County, KS June 29th, 2013

Submitted by John Richter and Hilary Haley

Owned and managed by Johnson County, the Cedar Niles property consists of hundreds of acres located west of the City of Olathe, KS. One particular parcel of this property exhibits a variety of native flora which has led to the determination that some portions of this property have not been plowed and express virgin native prairie. Matthew Garrett, an employee of Johnson County, has initiated a prescribed-fire regimen for the property to battle woody invasive plant species. Previous land owners had seeded eastern gamma grass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*) throughout much of the prairie, which poses challenges for restoration efforts. A warm season grass, this species is prolific with the amount of biomass accumulated each year, and the knotty rhizomes and perennial nature of this species will be something to reckon with for a long time to come.

John, Lisa, and Errol Richter, Matthew Garrett, Lance Jesse, and others worked on a preliminary list of species for this property, though a professional inventory would always be appreciated to truly document the current species diversity. Several new species for his list included yellow flax (*Linum sulcatum*), tall nut grass (*Scleria triglomerata*), and Sullivant's milkweed (*Asclepias sullivantii*). Regarding identification, non-flowering *A. sullivantii* really does look like *A. syriaca*, but differs from the later by having glabrous foliage and cordate based leaves nearly clasping the stem. One of the most overlooked plants of disturbed prairie - noseburn (*Tragia urticifolia*) was also noted to occur on the property. Ask around, nobody can identify this plant except hardcore botanists, not that it is difficult, just that no one really cares to learn it.

Matthew Garrett exclaimed at the sight of a blooming Michigan lily (*Lilium michiganense*) in the prairie. This plant was found near the end of our walk and was the highlight of botany finds for the day. It is the opinion of the author that this species responds well to sunlight, at least for a while, by actually flowering. Populations of this species growing in shaded woodlands can persist for years without ever flowering, their deep bulbs festering the years away in the cool earth until that big oak or hickory tree falls and sunlight bathes the ground above them.

Ozark Chapter

Submitted by Liz Olson, Chapter Representative

Throughout the summer, the Ozark Chapter hosts plant ID nights. In June, July, and August, folks brought in a variety of plants, everything from cultivated garden plants, to roadside weedy plants, to native pasture grasses and forbs. The casual format of these meetings and the collective knowledge of the group fosters interesting discussions about the plants' ecological niche and role in the environment.

Although not in the plant kingdom, fungus is always a popular topic for the 'fun-guys' in the Ozark Chapter, and we aim to please! So in the spirit of fun and expanding our knowledge, Jack and Mary Toll presented "Mushrooming for Beginners" at our September meeting.

Jack grew up in MO and learned 3 mushrooms as a kid: false morels, hickory chicks, and true morels that they called 'corn cob mushrooms'. In the 1970s in Wisconsin, he joined the North American Mycological Association, which at that time had only three members from MO. In the 1990s there was enough interest in MO to form a state chapter of the national organization. Since then, Jack has been part of the yearly foray to the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge in Puxico, MO, and he strongly advises joining a club as the best way to learn about mushrooms and meet great people in the process.

For Jack and Marty, mushrooming has been a fulfilling and enjoyable part of their lives, from their first date, to planning vacations around good mushrooming locales, and as an avenue to connect with kids and get them hooked on nature. They shared their life-long love of mushrooms and tips for getting started in understanding the wide world of mushrooms. To round out the evening, a presentation created by Barkha McDermith and presented by Susan Farrington covered the basics of mushroom biology and a plethora of photos and descriptions of common, edible, and poisonous mushrooms.

For our October meeting, we look forward to hosting George Yatskievych, author of the eagerly awaited and recently published Volume 3 of the Flora of Missouri. Dr. Yatskievych is a curator at the Missouri Botanical Gardens and the director of the Flora of Missouri Project.

Bud Burst wants you to report when seeds open, too.

Schizachyrium scoparium and *Solidago rigida*

BE photos

BE A CITIZEN SCIENTIST

Please sign up for Bud Burst and Monarch Watch.

Keep a calendar, or diary, or "list" of when you see plants emerging, when you see trees blooming or leaves erupting, when seeds are ripe. All the instructions are on the Bud burst web site. The site starts by asking you about common garden plants, but you can add anything you want.

SPRING SHOOTS

Verbesina helianthoides

Liatris pycnostachya;

Baptisia bracteata

BE photos

If you also enjoy birds and herps and Monarchs, there are citizen scientist data reporting sites for frog calls and for bird counts all year around. Start by looking at the Cornell Ornithology website and the MDC website. Monarch Watch will give you the parameters for Monarch assistance and data reporting.

CHAPTER CALENDARS

Kansas City

12 October, Saturday – Jerry Smith Park: No car pool required, but details on meeting time and location TBD. Contact person is Bill Fessler: fessler01@aol.com. This area is maintained by the Kansas City Missouri Parks and Recreation Dept. and boasts of a multitude of conservative prairie species that occur to only limited extents in Missouri. For those of you with a copy of Missouri Plants of Conservation Concern, please read about auriculate false foxglove.
5 November, Tuesday 7:00 PM, MDC Discovery Center: **Chapter meeting**, activity TBD.
December – break from activities.
7 Dec Sat State meeting in Columbia.

Hawthorn

For folks interested in hiking and wildflower sightings around the state, See chapter newsletter for details; also available on www.columbianativeplants.org Otherwise participate in outings with other chapters and MPF.
November
3 Sunday: Wreath workshop and potluck. 12 to 4-ish. See article on our website [as above] for details.
11 Monday Membership Meeting, 7 PM Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd.
21 Thursday: Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts, 11:30 at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway]. Informal exchange of ideas and information.

Perennis

November 2, 2013, Beech Drops Trip at Trail of Tears State Park. Meet at 9am at the Visitor Center at Trail of Tears SP in Jackson for a hike to see beech drops and other interesting fall features of the park's steeply dissected terrain.
For more information, weather restrictions, rescheduling visit http://www.semonps.org/ or contact Allison at allisonjv@yahoo.com

Ozark

The Ozark Chapter meets at 6:30 pm on the third Tuesday of each month at the Missouri Department of Conservation, Ozark Regional Office, 551 Joe Jones Blvd, West Plains, MO 65775. The Ozark Chapter does not meet during December and January. We will resume meetings in February 2014.

19 Nov Meeting 6:30 pm: Steven Bost from the Department of Natural Resources and the Ozark Chinquapin Foundation will speak about Ozark Chinquapin – its natural history and current efforts to restore this wonderful species.

Osage Plains

Regularly Scheduled Chapter meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month, 6:30pm, at the Henry Co. Library, Clinton. No December 2013 or January 2014 meeting. **Starting February 2014, regularly scheduled meetings will be changing from the 3rd Monday to the 4th Monday and Elizabeth Middleton will be transitioning in as Chapter President.** Contact Bernie Henehan berniehenehan@me.com or Dan Henehan danhenehan@embarqmail.com for trip information. President is Emily Horner emily.horner3@yahoo.com; Chapter Rep Casey Burks mobugwoman@gmail.com

18 Nov Wed Osage Plains Chapter meeting; 6:30pm at Henry Co. Library Friends Room. Program: Craft project TBD
No Osage Plains meetings scheduled in Dec and Jan.
7 Dec Sat MoNPS 4th quarter meeting in Columbia.

Empire Prairie

14 Oct Meeting 7pm at the MDC office in St Joseph. Seed exchange and discussion about starting seeds and growing native plants.

Southwest

Greene Co Botanical Center, Spgfld, 4th Tuesday, 6pm
November / December 2013: No monthly meetings due to the holidays.
28 Jan Tue: Dr. Chris Barnhart, Missouri State University, will talk about the emerald ash borer in Missouri and elsewhere. 6pm. Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center.
25 Feb Tue : Master Naturalist Bob Kipfer will talk about black bears in Missouri. 6pm. Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center.

St Louis

Chapter meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Sunset Hills Community Center, 3915 South Lindbergh Blvd., Sunset Hills, MO 63127. Google Map: http://goo.gl/maps/K3PR

October 23, 2013 – 7:30 PM – The last meeting for the calendar year is our annual picture show-and-tell. Members are encouraged to bring their digital plant photos (yes, there will be a slide projector for those who still know how to spell Kodak) from the year to share with others at this meeting.

"Hero for the Planet" new Chair of Center for Plant Conservation

BY Travis Mowers | Posted: Tuesday, October 01, 2013 02:48 PM: St Louis Post-Dispatch.

World-renowned scientist, speaker, author and former MacArthur fellow, Dr. Peter H. Raven, has been elected chairman of the Center for Plant Conservation (CPC), a national non-profit organization dedicated to conserving and restoring the endangered native plants of the United States. Raven's election was held Friday, September 27 at the autumn meeting of the CPC board at Cornell University.

Raven's tenure as CPC chair begins in an era of extraordinary threats to America's most vulnerable native plants, as they face increasing risk of extinction from climate change in addition to long-standing threats like habitat loss and invasive species. Native plants constitute a priceless resource for economic development, support vital habitat functions for humans and wildlife alike, and provide research opportunities to understand and provide better stewardship of our planet. It is alarming that more than 20 percent of the flora of the United States is already federally listed as endangered or considered imperiled by conservation authorities. As CPC chairman, Raven will provide essential leadership to secure these plant resources and ensure their legacy for the future.

Described by *Time* magazine as a "Hero for the Planet," Raven champions research around the world to preserve endangered plants and is a leading advocate for conservation and a sustainable environment. He headed the Missouri Botanical Garden for four decades and is internationally acclaimed for his ability to foster collaboration in addressing environmental and scientific challenges across organizations in the U.S. and across nations of diverse interests. He is much in demand as a speaker on the importance of biodiversity, conservation, and the significance of climate change, and is a prolific author. Raven is a recipient of the National Medal of Science in both the United States and China and has served as an advisor to American presidents, heads of state, government and religious leaders, including popes. He was Home Secretary for the U.S. National Academy of Sciences for 12 years.

He served as an expert and editor for the landmark 2007 report of the Scientific Expert Group on Climate Change, *Confronting Climate Change: Avoiding the Unmanageable and Managing the Unavoidable*, prepared for the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development.
http://www.whrc.org/news/pressroom/pdf/SEG_Report.pdf

The Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) is dedicated solely to preventing the extinction of U.S. native plants. CPC leads a network of 39 leading botanic institutions across the country, working collaboratively to secure and restore imperiled plants. The Center operates a national program of off-site conservation of rare plant material through seed banking and cultivated material, designed to support future restoration needs. Believed to be the largest living collection of rare plants in the world, it contains nearly 800 of America's most imperiled native plant species.
http://www.centerforplantconservation.org

For more information about the CPC and Peter Raven, please contact Travis Mowers, Communications Coordinator for the Center for Plant Conservation at 314-577-9450 travis.mowers@mobot.org or Dr. Kathryn Kennedy Kathryn.kennedy@mobot.org

This spot is reserved for you to share with your native plant friends [naturalists and ecologists] your adventures around your native garden and into the wild areas left on this tiny blue marble.

Indulge in the natural wonders here before they are gone.

Share your experiences with your friends.

Missouri Native Plant Society
PO BOX 440353
St Louis, MO 63144-4353
www.MissouriNativePlantSociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." Aldo Leopold

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