

PETAL PUSHER

May-June 2024 Newsletter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Volume 39 No.3

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

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MONPS Summer Field Trips to Cape Girardeau (June 21st-23rd)

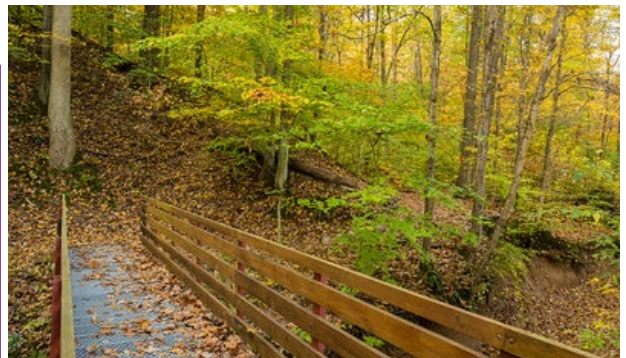
Join us on our Summer Field Trip Weekend, June 21 to 23, for visits to four examples of the unique natural communities found in southeast Missouri, as well as a presentation on Friday evening by Restoration Scientist Dr. Andrew Kabul and our Annual Meeting on Saturday evening. Directions to all trailheads and meeting places will be posted on our website, monativeplants.org.

Friday, June 21st at 1:00pm – Trail of Tears State Park, Shepard Point Trail, Cape Girardeau, MO

[Site Info](#) [Trail Map](#) [Trail Info](#)

This state park commemorates one of the saddest chapters in our country's history when in the winter of 1838-39 thousands of Native Americans perished while being forcibly marched across the Mississippi River to be relocated in Oklahoma. Our group will meet at the trailhead for Shepard Point Trail. This trail borders Vancill Hollow Natural Area, located within the state park, and leads to an overlook of the Mississippi River. “This mesic forest community is the westernmost site of a community more typical in the southern Appalachian mountains, with American beech, tulip poplar, and cucumber magnolia trees.” The understory features abundant species of ferns and beech drops, a rare parasitic plant. Restrooms for this trip are located in the park's visitors center and at the trailhead where we will be meeting.

Each issue, the Petal Pusher attempts to coordinate a theme for all of the articles as sort of a fun way to get information to you, the reader. This issue's theme is "Terminology." Enjoy!



Trail of Tears State Park

Friday 7:00pm – Join us for a presentation from Dr. Andrew Kaul, Restoration Scientist at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Dr. Kaul will provide a brief overview of the work being conducted at the botanical gardens and will feature his own research which focuses on restoration ecology, sourcing native seeds, and developing diverse seed mixes for restoration plantings. Dr. Kaul received his PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Iowa State University in 2020. Following graduation, he completed a post-doctoral fellowship with the Missouri Botanical Garden and will be returning to the Botanical Garden this July in a permanent position of Restoration Scientist.

Meeting Place: Missouri Department of Conservation, Southeast Regional Office, 2302 County Park Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Saturday, June 22nd at 9:00am – Sand Prairie Conservation Area, Benton, MO

[Site Info](#) [Area Map](#)

Meet us in the parking lot to explore this 200-acre area dedicated to the conservation of sand prairie, sand savanna, and sandy swale ephemeral wetlands. The first of two stops that will focus on this unique ecosystem and landscape. No restrooms are located at this area, please plan accordingly.

Saturday 12:00pm – Lunch in the parking lot of the Charleston Baptist Association (same location as the afternoon field trip to Edgar W. Schmidt Sand Prairie)

Saturday 1:00pm – Edgar W. Schmidt Sand Prairie, Benton, MO (photo on right by Bruce Schuette)

[Site info and area map](#)

Acquired by the Missouri Prairie Foundation in June 2021, this 55-acre tract of sand prairie and sand savanna showcase some of the rarest ecotypes in Missouri. An incredible 18 species of concern have been documented from this site, mostly due to the even more rare, sand swales found in this prairie. Parking is available at the Charleston Baptist Association where we will meet for lunch prior to the site visit. There are no restrooms available at the site, however there are gas stations along Highway 77 en route from Sand Prairie Conservation Area.

Saturday 7:00pm – Annual Meeting and Board Meeting
Meeting Place: Missouri Department of Conservation, Southeast Regional Office, 2302 County Park Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Sunday, June 23rd at 9:30am – Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Swampwalk Nature Trail, Puxico, MO

[Site Info](#) [Trail Map](#)

“Mingo National Wildlife Refuge consists of 21,592 acres of bottomland hardwood forest, cypress-tupelo swamp, marsh and upland forest ecosystems”. We will walk along the Swampwalk Nature Trail, a ¾ mile boardwalk trail that can be accessed from the visitors center



parking lot. Restrooms are available inside and outside of the visitors center.

Places to stay in Cape Girardeau, MO:

Quality Inn

2011 N. Kingshighway St.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Phone: (573) 837-4789

A block of rooms has been reserved under the group "MONPS". Please call to book your reservation by June 5th. The nightly rate is \$120 plus tax.

Optional Dinner Saturday, June 22nd at 5:00pm

McAlister's Deli

244 S. Mt. Auburn
Cape Girardeau, MO 53703
Phone (573) 332-7300



A group of us after the Sunday Spring 2024 field trip to Hercules Glade. A fun time was had by all! Pictured left to right: Michelle Bowe, Hilary Hayley, Cécile Lagandré, David Van Dyne, Theresa Kline, and Megan Wiskur. Photo by Michelle Pechmann Crutcher

The following poem, submitted by [Dana Thomas](#), was inadvertently omitted from our last issue, "Botanical Humor." While it's not strictly botanical, I think we can all relate...

The Purist

by [Ogden Nash](#)

I give you now Professor Twist,
A conscientious scientist,
Trustees exclaimed, "He never bungles!"
And sent him off to distant jungles.
Camped on a tropic riverside,
One day he missed his loving bride.
She had, the guide informed him later,
Been eaten by an alligator.
Professor Twist could not but smile.
"You mean," he said, "a crocodile."

Name Change of the Month

submitted by [Cécile Lagandré](#)

The Flora of the Southeastern United States has reviewed the taxonomy of the plant we know as *Achillea millefolium* on the complex basis of ploidy and of the fresh leaf lobing elaborateness. <https://fsus.ncbg.unc.edu/img/flora/FSUS2024.pdf> p. 1680

An older name is restored:

Achillea gracilis Raf. for the native widespread eastern yarrow encountered in "grassy balds, meadows, pastures, roadsides, disturbed areas" of the southeastern U.S.

Achillea millefolium L. proper, a native of Eurasia, is rarely encountered in North America in disturbed areas near port cities.

To me, the *Achillea millefolium* aggregate seems to be a native of a late Pangea that produced different entities when Eurasia and North America became physically separated.

Nominations Due May 15 for 2024 MONPS Awards

The MONPS Awards Committee seeks nominations of people who have supported the preservation of Missouri's flora. MONPS offers five awards:

1) Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education Award, recognizing individuals who, through teaching, writing, or other activity have conveyed to others a significant appreciation and knowledge of Missouri's native flora.

2) Arthur Christ Research Award, recognizing an individual's significant contribution in furthering the knowledge of Missouri flora.

3) Plant Stewardship Award, recognizing an individual or organization for the preservation of important elements of Missouri's flora through purchase, registry, and/or management practice.

4) The John E. Wylie Award, recognizing individuals who have provided exceptional service to the Society.

5) Plant Conservation Award, recognizing an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to the conservation or preservation of native plants or plant communities in Missouri. This award differs from the Plant Stewardship Award in that it is not tied to direct acquisition or management of tracts of land, but instead may recognize various types of outstanding achievements or efforts, such as conservation planning, advocacy, or new ways of looking at old problems.

6) Julian A. Steyermark Award, the Society's highest award, given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to any and all aspects of Missouri botany.

The deadline for nominations is May 15. Nominations should contain the full name of the nominee and the name of the person making the nomination, and they should set forth the contributions of the individual or organization that merits recognition. Award recipients need not be members of MONPS.

Please submit nominations to: Awards Committee
Chairwoman, Malissa Briggler
Malissa Briggler, State Botanist
Missouri Dept of Conservation
2901 W. Truman Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-522-4115 ext. 3200

Seeking Donations for the Stan Hudson Research Grant

Could you help us support students who are conducting botanical research in Missouri? The Stan Hudson Research Grant is available to assist with funding for research projects conducted by college or university students under the supervision of a faculty member. The grant honors the late H. Stanton Hudson (1921–2002), a long-time member of the Missouri Native Plant Society whose passion for the flora of Missouri and its conservation inspired his friends and family to create a small grants program in his memory. The grant is usually given annually.

To qualify for the Stan Hudson Research Grant, research must involve Missouri native plants in some way, but may have as its primary focus any pertinent subject area in plant biology, including conservation, ecology, physiology, systematics and evolution, etc. The grant may be used for any non-salary expenses relating to the proposed research, including travel, equipment, and supplies. At the conclusion of the project, grant recipients will be expected to prepare research results for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific journal, *Missouriensis* (the peer-reviewed journal of the Missouri Native Plant Society), or the society's newsletter *The Petal Pusher*. Alternatively, recipients can present their research at the Missouri Botanical Symposium as either a poster or oral presentation. The symposium is held each fall in Rolla, Missouri. To learn more about the grant, check out this link to the [Missouri Native Plants website-Hudson Fund](#) (button below).

[Click here to make a donation](#) to the Hudson Fund
Any amount is appreciated!

Not getting the Missouri Native Plant Society organizational emails?

Most email clients have a "safe senders" mechanism for you to make sure that your email server always sends mail from our MONPS server to your inbox.

*Some just have you add our server to your "Contacts"

*Some have you create "Rules".

*Some have an actual "Safe Senders/Domains" area in the settings.

To ensure that you get the organizational emails please add these two domains to whatever your email's "safe senders" process is: [monps.org](#) and [webapps.monps.org](#)

OR: You may simply need to update your email address with us. If so, click this link: <https://monativeplants.org/ask-a-question/>

These words may not mean what you think they mean!

by yours truly

I put together a list of terms that we use in every day language, but that mean something completely different to a botanist...

Entire doesn't mean whole, it means there are no teeth or lobes on a leaf

spine—not a backbone, but a pointy modified leaf that protects the plant

spike—not something police put out to catch speeders, but a flowering stalk where individual flowers do not have their own little stalks (an inflorescence type). Not to be confused with spine.

capsule—not a pill to take, but a dry fruit type with multiple seeds that can fall out

smooth—not soft and easy to consume, but a hairless plant part

scale—not something to weigh you, but a little brown or clear modified leaf that can cover a bud

perfect—not without mistake, but flowers with both male and female parts (stamens and carpels)

persistent—not annoying, but leaves or fruit that stay on for a long time

regular—not “the usual” but radial flower symmetry

irregular—not unusual, but bilateral flower symmetry

Can you think of more words that mean something different to a botanist?

Below: a perfect, but irregular flower (a white violet)!



Shop Online for Embroidered MONPS Logo Apparel

Check out the “MONPS Logo Apparel” link on the menu bar of our home page (monativeplants.org), and you'll be able to access our online store. Short-sleeved and long-sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts, and ball caps with embroidered MONPS logos are available in five colors. There's also a booney hat with embroidered logo, in dark brown. The tote bag has a direct-to-garment print of our logo. Our vendor, Fast Yowi, is located in Columbia, so you can pick up your order there if it's convenient, or have it shipped.



Do You Have a Plant Story?

Learn more about Missouri native plants at the newest feature on the MONPS website (monativeplants.org): Plant Stories. Do you have a favorite Missouri native plant? A photo you're particularly proud of? Please submit your story to pamela.barnabee@gmail.com for posting.

From the Editor

Thank you to our Assistant Editor, Pam Barnabee, for getting everything in good shape before it came to me. A special thanks to Hilary Haley for getting all of the field trip information together for each issue! Thanks also to our Board members who proofread each issue and all authors, chapter representatives, and other contributors. Please consider making a submission for a future Petal Pusher! Here is some information for submissions:

A. The theme for the July 2024 Petal Pusher is "Plant ID Motifs" but other submissions are encouraged, especially Genus or Family descriptions ("Better know a genus/family"), Conundrum Corner, Invasive Tip of the Month, Name Change of the Month, Terminology, and Poetry Corner.

B. Send ONE email saying "here is my contribution on _____," and attach (don't embed) the following:

1) an article in Word format with photo captions at the end (no photos in the Word document) and your name in the text.

2) Images, in JPEG format--NOT in a document file.

C. Use only one space between sentences

D. Even short notes with pictures would be great!

E. Send to: pamela.barnabee@gmail.com (don't send them directly to me!)

F. Due date for the next issue is: June 20

**Thank you so much,
Michelle Bowe**

We Welcome Member Submissions!

The Petal Pusher wants YOU ... to write articles for the newsletter.

Consider these possibilities:

-Conundrum Corner: Tips on how to distinguish between tricky, look-alike species.

-Invasive Tip of the Month: How to identify and eradicate a particular invasive species.

-What's Cooking: Recipes using native Missouri plants.

-Name Change of the Month: Latin names, they keep on a-changin'; help us all stay up-to-date.

-Poetry Corner or Quotation Corner: Give us your suggestions for poems or quotes, or submit your original poetry. (Note that for poems, we must have permission from the publisher.)

New Members

St. Louis

Eleuterio Carreon-Tapia, Webster Groves

Roy Gereau & Charlotte Taylor, St. Louis

Hawthorn

Brenda Peculis, Columbia

Danielle Fox, Columbia

Barbara Moran, Fulton

Kansas City

Sarah Hemme, Kansas City

Steve Wicks, Kansas City

Madegan Morrison, Kansas City

Paradoxa

Rebecca Landewe, Salem

Southwest

Colt Smith, Rogersville

Jordi Raos, Springfield

Judy Frohnapple, Springfield

Linda Brown, Nixa

Ozarks

Colt Smith, Rogersville

State Level

Gavin Schaefer, Lee's Summit

Cailyn Haubein, Columbia

Chapter Reports and Events

HAWTHORN

by Cindy Squire, Chapter Representative

Chapter Update

9 March - Mosey at Capen Park. Tree ID was well attended.

11 March - Meeting at Universalist Unitarian Church. Becky Erickson explained about plant ecotypes, their origins through geography and the necessity of ecotype plants for pollination, insect and animal survival.

16 March - Mosey at Wildhaven-Columbia Audobon Society property. The Moss Walk was highly attended and the weather was beautiful.

21 March - Monthly group lunch at First Watch -

Stadium location.

13 April - Plant Sale at Bradford Farms.

18 April - Monthly group lunch at First Watch - Stadium location.

21 April - Earth Day. Information and Plant Sales in Downtown Columbia.

22 April - Mosey at Pierpont South End, 5 pm. A glade walk.

Upcoming Chapter Events

3 May - Adopt a spot work party. Bring tools and prepare for spring cleaning of gardens.

4 May - Mosey at Rocky Glade at Three Creeks. Rain Date May 5.

11 May - Mosey at Hundred Acre Wood shooting star walk. Rain date May 12.

TBA May - Mosey - Native Orchids at Cedar Creeks District MTNF. Watch email for date!!

13 May - No meeting.

16 May - Monthly group lunch at First Watch - Stadium location.

17 May - Adopt a Spot work day.

18 May - Bass Pro Plant Sale.

TBA May - Mosey at Ann Wakeman's.

31 May - Adopt a Spot work day.

1 June - Mosey at Ha-Ha Tonka.

10 June - No meeting.

14 June - Adopt a Spot work day.

20 June - Monthly group lunch at Uprise Bakery inside Ragtag Theater.

22 June - Mosey near Graham Cave SP.

See www.columbianativeplants.org for an updated posting of newsletters and activity details. Please check your email for more information and changes to above dates.

PARADOXA

by Pam Barnabee, Chapter President

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 18, 8:00 a.m.-Noon, Spring Native Plant Sale, Rolla Saturday Farmers Market at Big Lots. Vendors will be Doolittle Gardens, Prairie Hill Farm, and Paradoxa. Please let me know if you can donate plants to sell and/or can lend a hand setting up canopies and helping at the sale.

Monday, May 20, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Solomon Hollow Glades Natural Area. This designated natural area contains a series of sandstone glades. We can expect to see plants that prefer an acid substrate such as dwarf potato dandelion (*Krigia virginica*), thread-leaved sundrops (*Oenothera linifolia*), and fame flower (*Phemeranthus calycinus*).

Saturday, June 15, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Indian Trail Natural Area. The natural area here is divided into two separate sections: dolomite glade and savanna. A pre-trip expedition will determine our focus area.

For more information about Paradoxa Chapter activities, please contact us at paradoxarolla@gmail.com

ST. LOUIS

by Rick Gray, President

The St. Louis Chapter met on **March 27** at the Webster Groves Public Library and enjoyed a presentation titled "Nature and Humanity: Unpeeling the Onion of Us" given by Justin Thomas.

The next Chapter meeting will be on **April 24th** in-person with a Zoom simulcast and will feature presentations from Dr. Kyra Krakos, Professor of Biology at Maryville University, and members of her undergraduate Botany lab.

The presentation on Missouri Trees given by Dr. Richard Abbott at our January meeting has been posted to the Missouri Native Plant Society webinars page.

Missouri Native Plant Society Membership Form

Name	
Address	
City, State, ZIP	
Phone	
Email	

Membership Level (check one):

	Student	\$5
	Goldenrod	\$10
	Sunflower	\$25
	Bluebell	\$50
	Blazing Star	\$100

Chapter dues (optional, check all that apply):

	Empire Prairie (Saint Joseph)	\$5
	Hawthorn (Columbia)	\$5
	Kansas City	\$5
	Osage Plains (Clinton)	\$5
	Ozarks (West Plains)	\$5
	Paradoxa (Rolla)	\$5
	Perennis (Cape Girardeau)	\$5
	Saint Louis	\$5
	Southwest (Springfield)	\$5

Newsletter Delivery (normal delivery is via email):

	Check here if you prefer to receive your newsletters via postal mail!	\$10
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Other contributions (optional, check all that apply, specify amount, tax deductible):

	Hudson Grant Fund	
	Other contributions	

Total:

Total amount	\$
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Make checks payable to the *Missouri Native Plant Society* and mail to:
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 PO Box 440353
 Saint Louis MO 63144-4353

Visit us on the web (monativeplants.org) and join us on Facebook!



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 Please recycle!

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Michelle Bowe
but help needed!
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To contact the Missouri Native Plant Society, please **click the "Have a Question" link** on our website.

"In nature nothing exists alone."

--Rachel Carson