
Missouri Native Plant Society



Petal Pusher

Volume I Number 4 1986

PRESIDENTIAL MEMO #4

Hope you are all enjoying our nice July weather. Only have a few items to talk about. 1) on July 26th, in Jefferson City, a clan of members will discuss the future of our State Flora Update Project. 2) I have contacted Iowa State University Press in Ames, Iowa, and we can get a discount for purchasing Steyermark's Flora of Missouri....3) I had the extreme pleasure of going on a field trip with fellow MONPS members from the Kansas City area to Sunshine Lake. (We searched for *Dracopis amplexicaulis*, which we found, *Bergia texana* which we did not find since the site was in soy beans, and some others. I'm on my way to Colorado, so to all a good July and a cool August.

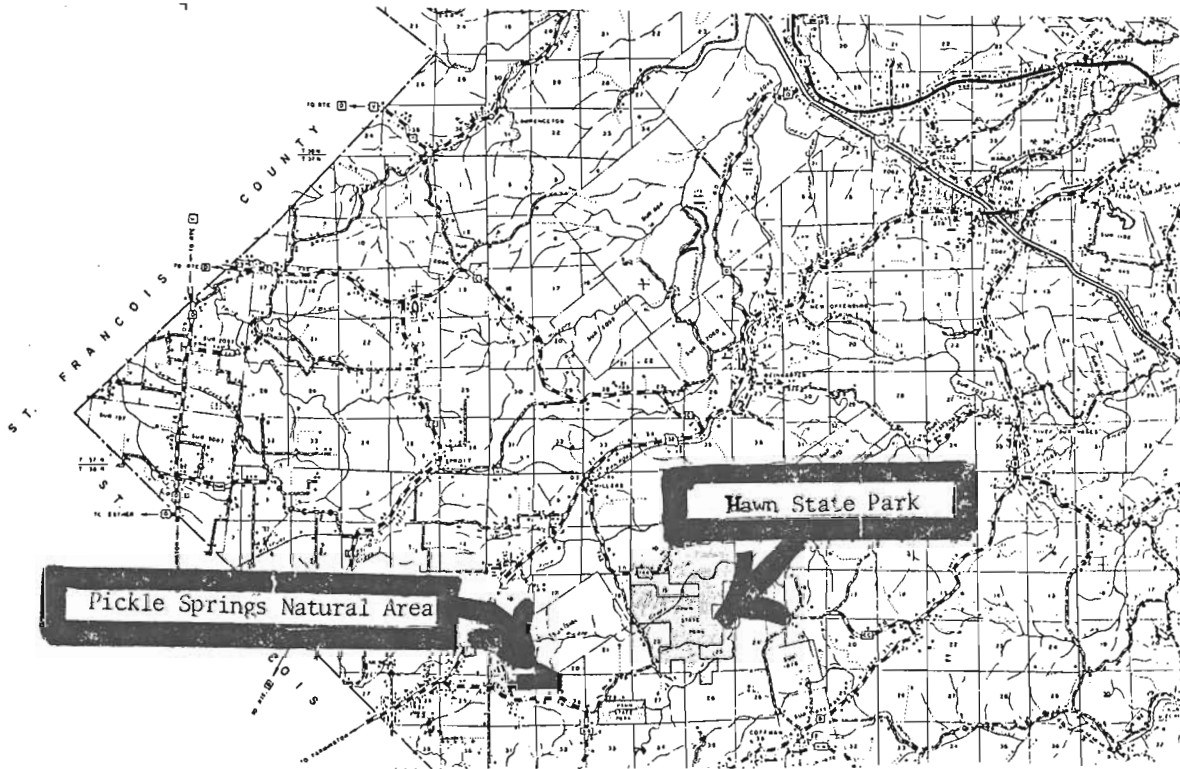
COMING EVENTS

- August 12, 6:30 PM, Kansas City Chapter, Meeting at Swope Park Nature Center. Field trip to Blue River Glades. Call Patrice Dunn for info. 781-8598.
- August 16, 8:30 AM, Jefferson City Chapter, Field Trip to Three Creeks State Forest. Meet at DOC Headquarters.
- August 17, 1:30 PM, Hawthorn Chapter, Field Trip to Hungry Mother Wildlife Area. Meet on Courthouse Square in Fayette across from Central Trust Bank.
- August 27, 7:00 PM, Hawthorn Chapter, Monthly meeting at University of Missouri, Room 18 Tucker Hall.
- Sept. 2, 7:30 PM, Jefferson City Chapter, Regular meeting and program at DOC Headquarters.
- Sept. 9, 6:30 PM, Kansas City Chapter, Meeting at Linda Ellis', at 6668 N. Pennsylvania, KCMO, 468-4739. Field trip to Hidden Valley. (Bring lawn chairs).
- Sept. 13, 8:30 AM, Jefferson City Chapter, Field trip - place to be announced. Meet at DOC Headquarters.
- Sept. 20, State Meeting and field trips to Ste. Genevieve County. - See page 2 for details.

JUST A REMINDER

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS SEPT. 10th TO THE JEFFERSON CITY P.O. BOX OR SEPT. 15th TO THE EDITORS. PLEASE TYPE IN 4 INCH COLUMNS OR SEND AS IS AND WE'LL BE HAPPY TO DO THE WORK.

SEPTEMBER, 1986 FIELD TRIPS
STE. GENEVIEVE COUNTY



Saturday, Sept. 20th

Option A: Day hike at Hawn State Park. Hawn State Park is well known for its scenic hiking trails. Those who wish may accompany Paul Nelson on an extended excursion to several of the characteristic natural communities. You will observe numerous moss and lichen carpeted ledges along River aux Vases, traverse sandstone forests of oak and pine, cross several headwater streams, visit a sandstone canyon, and follow the trail through a magnificent shut-ins and igneous glades/barrens complex. Be sure to bring water, pack a lunch and wear comfortable hiking shoes. The hike begins at 8:00AM at the campgrounds, and will last most of the day.

Option B: Short trips to special features at Hawn State Park and Pickle Springs Natural Area. Meet at the campground at 8:00AM and start the day with a hike through the shut-ins of Pickle Creek. Along the way you will also visit some of the associated igneous glades and barrens. Then, travel by van to see the sandstone savannah and glade complex which is to be nominated a Missouri natural area.

After lunch at the Plank Road Inn in Farmington, meet at the parking lot at Pickle Springs Natural Area. This is a newly designated Missouri natural area with several interesting geologic features and a wealth of plant life to be observed. See sandstone bluffs, talus, hoodoos, arches, and glades along a nice three-mile trail.

Accommodations

Lodging is available at the Knight's Inn in Farmington, Mo. (314-756-8951) Be sure to make reservations as it does fill up! Tonanzios and the Plank Road Inn are both nice places to eat.

Also, camping is available on a first come, first served basis at Hawn State Park.

When I was growin up, we went runnin wild in the woods and learned a awful lot about things without knowin we was learnin. I always liked flowers and plants and looked at'em a lot so I thought I knowed all about the plants in the woods.

But I went to the city and got to readin books and found out I didn't know much atall. For one thing, I'd been seein plants (them I liked) and weeds (them I didn't) and it seems they is all plants and ever one of them has got its own name. Some little ol plants that ain't as big as my finger has got great big latin names as long as my arm.

Well, I decided to learn'em all and took to carryin books in the woods. I even joined one of them plant societies and a bunch of us would go for miles up and down hills carryin books and hollerin latin and scarin the scorpions and rattlesnakes and tourists and fallin in creeks and off rocks and collectin chiggers and poison ivy. It was lots of fun and educational.

One thing sort of leads to another and I found out that bugs and rocks and everything else has a name and a lot to learn about it. But the truth is, I got real wore out just studying plants. There wasn't many educated people where I grewed up and I'm beginnin to see why. Gittin educated is hard work.

But I ain't givin up. I wouldn't never want to be ignernt.

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MENSION, newsletter of
Mid-America Mensa

We met June 10 at the Cave Spring Interpretive Center in Raytown where Sylvia Mooney showed us about the Center and gāve us a general history of the area. Then we began part of the hiking trail which passed through a small prairie and some woodland and followed a creek. This area had previously been a resort and the flora includes a lot of domestic plants gone wild in addition to many native plants. Before long the sky darkened so we could hardly see and dumped buckets of rain on us. This was all accompanied by tornado warn- ing sirens. When Sylvia invited us to her house nearby we ran. We held our business meeting there and then adjourned to the parking lot for refreshments provided by Judy and Vaughn Oetting.

On July 8 we met at Burr Oak Woods Nature Center where Linda Chlorice and Mike Richards led us on their nature trail. Many of us had seen it in the spring and enjoyed noting the seasonal changes. Linda and Mike provided a lot of information on the use of many of the plants for food, medicine and othere domestic needs. We concluded with a business meeting and chat in the parking lot.

Business matters included electing Judy Oetting, phone 816-249-5692, as secretary to replace Judith Twitchell who had asked to be replaced. Ona Gieschen volunteered to coordinate plant salvage operations and told us she had some contacts of possible sites for salvage. Homer Janssens reported that he had contacted Pittsburg Coal Company and they would permit salvage in front of their strip mining operations. We hope to begin some salvage activity this fall and next spring.

Sue Hollis, Pres

JEFFERSON CITY CHAPTER NEWS

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Sylvia Forbes, Fayette
Tim Smith, Jefferson City
Clarence Schaffner, Hamburg, Iowa (gift from
St. Louis botany group)
Robert Ahlvin, Sikeston
Nathaniel Branch, St. Louis
Gay Brown, Ballwin
J. I. Fink, Clarksville
Pat Harris, St. Louis
Kathi and Jerry LaVelle, Manchester
Mike Lawson, Joplin
Bob and Lou McKune, Rolla
Stanley Sides, M.D., Cape Girardeau
Linden Trial, Columbia
Russell Williamson, Bunker
Betty Withers, Maplewood
Bill and Debi Trefz, Kansas City (new K.C. Chapter
Treasurer)
Bob Abernathy, Kansas City
Debbie Brink, Kansas City
Michael and Pat Mueller, Paola, Kansas

The Jefferson City Chapter has been active through the summer months. Our June field trip was to the farm of member and wild edible enthusiast John Logan, where we studied wild edibles. After learning to identify several edible species, we sampled some persimmon ice cream and aromatic sumac "lemonade."

Our July meeting began with a very informal sack supper at a local park (complete with homemade ice cream and brownies). Afterwards member Betty Grace took us on a tour of the arboretum and prairie planting on the grounds of the Department of Conservation Headquarters. Our July field trip will be a trip to Missouri Wildflowers Nursery to learn about wildflower propagation.

The Jefferson City Chapter holds meetings the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Department of Conservation Headquarters Auditorium on West Truman Blvd. in Jefferson City. Our field trips are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month. We meet at the MDC Headquarters at 8:30 am. Come join us!

MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING
June 13, 1986

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Castaner at 7:45 p.m. at Big Lake State Park. Minutes from the preceding meeting were approved as read. Treasurer Merv Wallace reported a balance on hand on 4-24-86, \$6,047.52; income from operations (dues), \$290.00; disbursements (mainly for postage and seed money for the three new chapters), \$505.61; balance on hand 6-11-86, \$5,831.91. Total number of paid members, 327 (up 49 since 4-24-86).

Doug Ladd reported for the nominating committee that the two candidates nominated for terms on the board expiring June 1989, Patrick DeLozier and Wally Weber, were elected by a landslide.

A meeting of the state inventory committee was scheduled for July 25, 1986, at 1:00 p.m. in the Department of Conservation headquarters building in Jefferson City. Members of this committee are: Dave Castaner, Doug Ladd, Paul Nelson, Paul Redfearn, Jay Reveill, Sue Taylor, Joanna Turner, and Wally Weber.

President Castaner announced that Nancy Morin has resigned as editor of Missouriensis. Paul Redfearn has agreed to be the new editor and the journal will be published in Springfield.

Sue Taylor has offered to keep the archives for each of the local MONPS chapters. Copies of all newsletters, minutes, business letters, etc. should be sent to her at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Botany Department, P. O. Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166, at the end of the year. However, financial statements should be sent to Treasurer Merv Wallace.

The next meeting of the Society will be held September 20th in Ste. Genevieve County. No business meeting will be held and the entire time will be devoted to field trips led by Jim Key and Paul Redfearn. Field trip chairman Ken McCarty will contact Key and Redfearn about setting up arrangements. The winter meeting is scheduled for December 6th in Jefferson City. This will be an all-day business meeting lasting from 10:00 a. m. to 4:00 p.m. Paul Nelson offered to check on the availability of a meeting room at the Truman Building.

Ginny Wallace reported a request from a wildflower business for our mailing list, and it was decided that the list should not be released.

The need for one person to be in charge of seeing that MONPS field trips are written up was discussed, and Ken McCarty agreed to take on this responsibility. He will do this himself or appoint someone else, and will see to it that the reports get to the newsletter editors.

Dave Castaner proposed that a national association of plant societies would be valuable in the exchange of ideas and in protecting endangered plants. Anyone with ideas on how such an association could be started should contact him.

There has been a protest about a recent incursion without permission on private property by a MONPS group. G. Wallace emphasized the importance of always securing such permission, particularly when an official MONPS group is involved. Under trespass law a person can be arrested and prosecuted whether he knows he is on private property or not.

Paul Nelson announced a more favorable attitude toward using native plants along highways by the State Highway Department. D. Castaner will write them to offer any help our society might give.

At the end of the meeting G. Wallace reported that the awards committee was prepared to present the first MONPS Annual Awards. D. Castaner awarded the Julian A. Steyermark Award to Art Christ. The other three recipients were unable to be present and their awards will be presented at the next St. Louis Chapter meeting. The awards and their recipients are: Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award, Edgar Denison; the Plant Stewardship Award, Fred Husman; and the MONPS Research Award, Bill Summers. Wallace requested greater response when nominations are asked for next year. There are many deserving people but they have to be nominated to receive the recognition they deserve.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Turner
Joanna Turner, Secretary

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FIELD TRIP TO WILLOW SPRINGS

The official Annual Meeting was to have been held on June 14th, but in view of the inability of several members to stay over another night, most of the business scheduled was covered at the board meeting. A group of about 20 gathered for an informal meeting at the Visitor's Center at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. Ginny Wallace went over the awards again for those unable to attend the previous meeting. She also expressed appreciation for the society for John Molyneaux's efforts during his term on the board. In turn, the group gave thanks to Ginny for all the time and effort she has given in arranging such outstanding field trips for the society for so many years.

Linda Ellis announced the results of the newsletter name contest, and the winner was Wally Weber for the name "Petal Pusher." Ellis concluded the meeting by presenting a slide program on her recent trip through Texas, Shannon, Wayne, and Ste. Genevieve counties. Obviously it was enjoyed as she had to repeat it by popular demand.

NOTE: Because of limited space in the newsletter, the minutes must be condensed. Complete minutes are available from the secretary upon request.

NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY

On June 30th, 1986, MONPS received a letter from the U.S. Dept. of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. The following is an excerpt from that letter:

Dear Members - Enclosed is the 1986 wetland plant list for your region of the country, and the appropriate State list of wetland plants and hydric soils. Please let me know the names and addresses of additional people who should receive this list. We are attempting to distribute these lists as widely as possible in order to obtain review on as many species as possible.

The regional lists have undergone an intensive initial review which resulted in the regional interagency review panels reaching consensus on a wetland Indicator for approximately 70% of the species on the list. We are currently distributing these revised regional lists to interested field botanists in order to allow us to assign Indicators to those species presently without an Indicator and to correct any errors of omission or commission in our work to date.....

Sincerely,
Porter B. Reed, Jr.
Wetland Ecologist

Any MONPS member interested in reviewing this material should contact Ginny Wallace Dept. of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, Mo. 65102-0180

MONPS

We met at Willow Springs Sunday, May 25th and carpooled to Indian Creek which is off highway 76 in Howell County. The Indian Creek area is an unusual habitat as it has sandstone formations over dolomite. The line where the layers join is very distinct with different plant communities on each.

Because our group was so large, over 50, Ginny Wallace and Bill Summers each took half the group and started the trip in opposite directions. Ginny and Bill had thoughtfully scouted the area the day before and removed all the ticks so we were well organized and the trip went smoothly.

We examined several different habitat types including creek bank, alluvial soil, both sandstone and dolomite bluff faces, upper woodland and glade.

Our primary interest was orchids and we found them. Most spectacular, of course, were the pink lady-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*) growing on the bluff over the creek. They were just higher than we could reach and several photographers were seen hanging by a fingernail while clicking happily away. These lady-slippers were growing under a shady overhang just at the drip line from the rocks above. Many of us had never seen them before and were all awed by their beauty. Growing on the same ledge was foliage of the rare white death camas (*Zigadenus elegans*).

We found several nice twayblades (*Liparis lilifolia*) in bloom near a stand of shining club moss (*lycopodium lucidulum*). Another place, we all bent our faces to the ground and searched diligently for the tiny green adder's mouth orchid. Only one was found but it was picture perfect. This time the photographers were nose to the dirt getting pictures.

On shady bluffs we found *Sullivantia renifolia*, a small and rather rare member of the Saxifrage family, and the southern maiden-hair fern or Venus-hair fern (*Adiantum Capillus-veneris*) which is near its northern limits in southern Missouri. We also found foliage of *Parnassia grandifolia* in a small wet meadow area.

In addition to all this, some members were treated to a fat, just-fed water snake who was unimpressed with us and to a Woodhouse toad which is on the state watch list. And one person with a geologic interest swam fully clothed into a cave.

This was rough terrain but something about botanizing gives us all extra reserves. With only occasional hand pulls and fanny pushes, we scrambled up and down rocks, over a waterfall and waded the creek repeatedly. Even the rain did not slow us down.

Sue Hollis

FIELD TRIP TO TARKIO PRAIRIE

Standing in knee-high prairie wildflowers and grasses, I watched a deer white-tail it away down the hill. A soft spoken wind marked it's progress toward me, flattening and lifting the taller seed heads while a few clouds chugged through a clear summer sky.

The location of this setting is the Mackoy Farm acquired by the Dept. of Conservation in the summer of 1985 and named Tarkio Prairie. Our afternoon fieldtrip on June 14th took us to this site, located east of Tarkio, Mo. off highway M, for a look at one of the most beautiful pieces of virgin prairie I've ever seen.

This was not my first trip to this area in Atcheson Co. I had known Craig Mackoy during my college days and had visited the farm with a group of folks in the late 70's. When I found we would be taking a look at this location, I contacted Mr. Mackoy who kindly took the time to send the included map and outline the property's history and management. To quote his letter:

In 1952, when I and my family came to this farm, there were mostly pastures fenced with a few farm ground areas. The western half was all pasture. Only the creek bottom was farmed. The eastern half contained the bulk of the farm ground on the creek bottom. There was only one area of obvious prairie in 1952 and that was area #1. (Area #1 was the site of our field trip)

Mr. Mackoy further wrote that the land containing area # 1 had been purchased from an insurance company that repossessed farms during the depression and had belonged to a family named Herrick. Waring Mackoy purchased the land in 1940 recognizing the value of the prairie for horse hay. This area had never been plowed in the known history of the acreage due mostly to it's difficult accessibility by farm machinery.

Starting in the late 60's through the 70's, Craig Mackoy and his brother Jim, initiated a program of periodic March burns. This management practice has been responsible for the reappearance of prairie throughout the tract. In Craig's words;

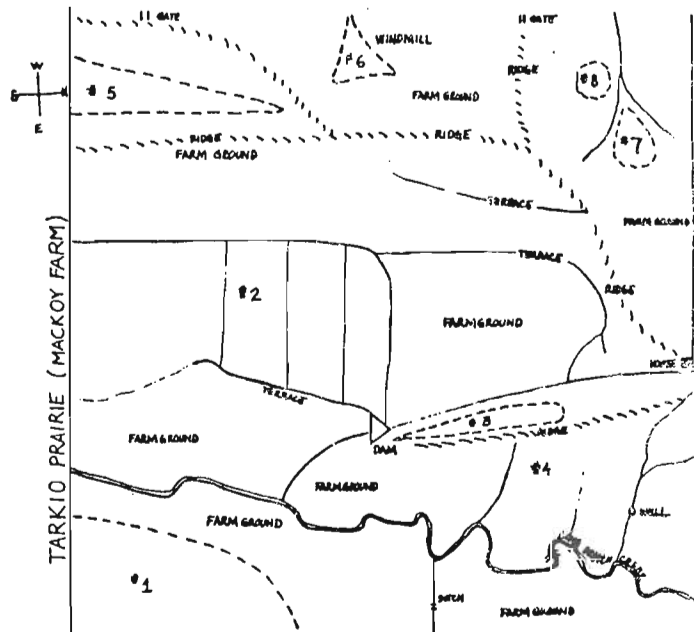
Some (areas) have responded better than others. (Areas) #2, #3, and #7 responded best. (Areas) #4, #5, and #8 have not been burned as frequently as desired. (Areas) #5 and #6 seem to have had the native prairie largely replaced by brome, orchard and other interseeded grasses.

The Mackoys are still involved in managing this prairie tract. Mr. Mackoy keeps bees on the property and is still working to recover the pastured prairie areas to something like their probable original state. I think the family's work is a prime example of what can occur under private ownership when careful attention and appreciation of one's land conjoins with knowledge and it's proper application.

The Tarkio Prairie tract is the site of several unique and very showy species which occur in very few other locations in Missouri and merits further study by those with true appreciation of the prairie environment. Needless to say, our field trip to Tarkio will not be my last visit to this wonderful area of prairie expression.

(for further information on prairie management, contact Mo. Prairie Foundation, P.O. Box 200, Columbia, Mo. 65205.)

Linda Ellis



ERRATA

Ms. Sue Hollis is the coordinator-organizer of the chapter representational review committee, not Sue Ellis as was reported in Presidential Memo # 3 in the last issue.

MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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- Wally Weber, Springfield

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- Environmental Action: John Doggett
- Inventory: Jay Raveill
- Membership: Ginny Wallace

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS WELCOME MATERIAL!!

The Newsletter was formed to provide MoNPS members with a current tool of communication. In other words, so we could let each other know what's going on before it's old news. So far, we haven't had too much trouble filling up the space, but this issue was pushing it. Editors Linda and Sue had to scramble to fill it (in fact, that's what this article is for - to fill space).

I know there are many talented members out there with lots of interesting experiences to share. There are also members crazy enough to respond to what they read. I mean, if you find a neat plant in a new place and write about it, they'll drive 12 hours on a weekend just to see the darn thing! You don't need to write about plants, either, for that matter. At least specific ones that is. Why not write about a place you've been. We all have our favorites tucked away, and I for one would be interested in visiting yours. Poetry is also appropriate, if you're the type who can wax poetic. If you feel as if you don't know enough to write about something then send in a question that we can give to one of our "experts" to answer.

Just to set the record straight, I am not one of the Editors, just an interested bystander. Why not help them out, get out a pen and a piece of paper, or your typewriter, and share some of the summer's sites. Next deadline is September 10, and the one after that is November 10. (Send to P. O. Box 6612, Jefferson City, MO 65102).

THANKS!

PAPER PUBLISHED ON LOESS HILL FLORA

A recent paper in the Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science provides a vascular plant species checklist for the loess hill prairies in Missouri, Iowa and South Dakota. The checklist of 703 species is the result of a 4-year field study in addition to herbarium and literature searches.

Novacek, J.M., D.M. Roosa and W.P. Pusateri. 1985. The Vegetation of the Loess Hills Landform Along the Missouri River. Proc. Iowa Sci. 92(5): 199-212.