

PETAL PUSHER

The Newsletter of the Missouri Native Plant Society

Volume 5, Numbers 2 & 3

DOUBLE ISSUE!!!!

March - June, 1990

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following nominating committee was appointed at the April board meeting to name candidates for the two board positions which expire in June, 1990:

Joanna Turner, chairman Jim Bogler
 Pat Grace Rad Widmer

The committee voted to nominate the two members who are presently filling these positions in the interim: Linda Ellis and Larry Houf. Other nominations are welcome, and according to the bylaws, the name and qualifications of any paid member submitted by a group of five paid members must be included on the ballot if it is in the hands of the nominating committee before the close of nominations. **This year nominations will need to be received (not postmarked) by June 14th, 1990.** Send nominations to Joanna Turner, at 166 N. Brentwood, St. Louis, MO 63108.



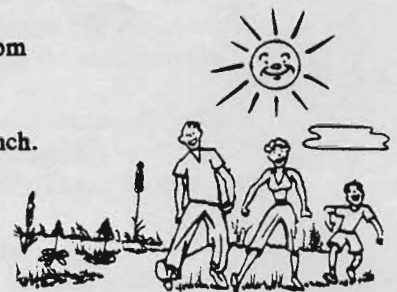
Celebrate the Missouri Native Plant Society at the Annual Meeting Banquet and Field Trips, June 15-17



The annual board meeting banquet and field trip will be held at Stockton Lake State Park and vicinity, June 15-17. The theme of programs and field trips will be prairies. There will be a program on prairies and their management Friday night, and field trips to a variety of prairies Saturday and Sunday. The annual awards banquet will be held Saturday night. **If you plan to attend, you must call Tim Nigh at (314) 751-4115 by June 8th, to reserve a place at the banquet.** The cost of the banquet will be \$10/person for a full buffet, dessert, and beverage. The board meeting will be held Saturday night. Most people have already made reservations at Stockton State Park Marina, and it is full. Alternative accommodations can be made at Al Haven Motel in Stockton (417) 275-4907.



Itinerary

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Friday, June 15 | Missouri Prairies - a program by Tom Toney, Missouri Dept. of 8 pm
Conservation Biologist |
| Saturday, June 16
9 am | Field trip to prairies in vicinity of Stockton. Bring sack lunch.
Meet at Stockton State Park marina. |
| Saturday, June 16
6:30 pm | Annual Awards Banquet at the Stockton State Park marina.
(\$10/person reservations required) |
| Saturday, June 16
8:30 pm | Quarterly board meeting of the Missouri Native Plant Society. |
| Sunday, June 17
9 am | Field trips to prairies. Bring sack lunch. Meet at Stockton State
Park marina. |



Map with location of annual meeting.




ANNUAL AWARDS


In 1985, the Missouri Native Plant Society set up a system of awards, to recognize people who have made significant contributions concerning our native flora. The Society has established four major awards, which are listed below.

1. **The Erna A. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award:** To be awarded to an individual who, through teaching writing, or other form, has significantly conveyed to others an appreciation and knowledge of Missouri's native flora. This award may be presented annually if merited.
2. **Unnamed research award:** To be awarded to an individual who has made a significant contribution toward furthering the knowledge of Missouri flora. This award may be presented annually if merited for accomplishments made during the award year.
3. **Plant Stewardship Award:** To be awarded to an individual or organization for preservation of important elements of Missouri's flora through purchase, registry and/or management practice. This award may be presented annually if merited.
4. **Julian A. Steyermark Award:** The Society's highest award to be presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to any or all aspects of Missouri botany. This award is to be given as merited for superior achievement.

One award per category may be given each year. The recipients will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Bill Summers

Springtime. A time when life starts its awakening process from the long, cold winter. Long before we see true signs of Spring, usually in mid-February, we get a few warm days. Right away we develop "Spring fever." Spring fever usually starts setting in when you hear the birds singing cheerful choruses while you are getting ready for work. You open the window curtains and rays from the early morning sunrise come filtering in the room. It really hits you when you go outside to your car, to leave for work. The sun has warmed the cool morning air, and overhead you hear and see a flock of geese Northward bound, and then -there it is - you spot a beautiful golden dandelion in bloom in your lawn.

If you love botany like I do, then you get Spring fever in a hurry. Your first thoughts are, "I bet if I went down to the creek bottom I would find Bloodroot, Toothwort, Hepatica, and False Rue Anemone in bloom." You manage to struggle through the work week, but come Saturday, you go to the creek, and sure enough, you do find all those wildflowers in bloom, and much more.



Springtime is not only wildflowers, but is much more - birds singing in the morning, choruses of Spring Peepers in the evening, flocks of geese flying North, gentle breezes, enjoying new discoveries, and friends. Spring is a time of sharing. Spring is a time of growth, not only in the plant world, but within our selves.

This year there are many events planned state wide, and our members of the Missouri Native Plant Society are taking an active part. Several of our chapters are having booths with displays. We will greet the public, and make citizens aware of Missouri's native flora. Make them aware of how important Missouri's flora is to our environment. Invite them to our programs and field trips, and to take an active part in our organization. Encourage them to become members of an organization dedicated to preservation, conservation, the study of wild plants of Missouri, and the education of the public to the values of the native flora and its habitat.

As we grow, new members are more than just members. They are a network of friends, sharing and protecting our plants and habitats. New members come into an organization with ideas and enthusiasm, and stimulate new growth and interest. They share their special places and knowledge, as we share ours with them.

MOWING POLICIES CHANGE

Over the past two years, the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department has been listening to and implementing suggestions about mowing policies along Missouri's roads. Previously, they had been mowing as much as possible along the roads, to keep them "tidy." While it looks nice, people have suggested that there may be reasons not to mow everything. On steep slopes, vegetation can inhibit the amount of soil erosion that takes place. By mowing less, and later in the year, the growth of native plant species are encouraged as well. Also, less mowing results in less cost to taxpayers.

The Highway and Transportation Department no longer mows any hillside that is steeper than a 3:1 slope. They used to mow twice a year on rural roads, but mostly do not mow rural roads now. They used to mow thoroughly at least twice a year on all major roads as well, but now split the mowing into three parts. The first time they mow 6 feet from the road. The second cutting they mow the median strip. The third cutting, which is delayed till late August, is mowing to 30' from the road.

The Highway and Transportation Department also revegetates areas of new construction, and areas for beautification and erosion control. In one recent project, they have planted 8,000 trees on Highway 63 South between Columbia and the Columbia regional airport. Most of these trees were Redbuds, Wild Plum, and White Pine. While not all of these trees were natives, perhaps the Native Plant Society can help by collecting and donating seed, by suggesting suitable trees for differing roadside habitats, and by helping to grow, or encourage nurseries to grow more native species so they are available to use in projects such as these.

To show your approval and support of the new mowing policies, which are helping to preserve our native species, please write a short letter to your legislators and to:

Owen Redel
District Engineer
Hwy & Transportation Dept.
P.O. Box 718
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Wayne Muri
Chief Engineer
Hwy & Transportation Dept.
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102

WOODLAND PLANT PROPAGATION

A study group is being formed to develop propagation methods for native woodland herbaceous and woody (understory) species. If you have had success in growing any of these plants, please send information on your techniques; or if you do not have experience but are interested in growing these plants contact:

Stephanie Smith
104 Westwood
Columbia, MO 65203
(314)449-5473



Petal Pusher



MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT QUIZ

Test your knowledge of Missouri botany! See if you can answer the following questions.

1. Name a rare Missouri plant whose name starts with the letter C.
2. What is Missouri's state tree?
3. What is Missouri's state nut?
4. What is Missouri's state flower?
5. What is Missouri's state grass?
6. In what habitat would you be most likely to find Utricularia gibba?
7. Name a native Missouri plant whose flowers do not have petals.
8. Name a native Missouri plant that has both poisonous and edible parts on the same plant.
9. Name a native Missouri plant that has blue flowers.
10. Name a native Missouri plant that has been used in dyeing, and the part used.
11. Name three native Missouri plants with edible roots/tubers.
12. Name a state forest in Missouri.
13. Name a native Missouri plant that is pollinated by hummingbirds.
14. Name a native Missouri flower that is very fragrant.
15. Name a native Missouri plant that blooms in February.
16. Name a native Missouri plant that has no green parts.
17. Name a native Missouri plant whose species epithet is *missouriensis*.
18. Name a Missouri plant with edible flowers.
19. Name a plant considered to be a noxious weed in Missouri.
20. Name botanist (other than Steyermark) important in Missouri's botanical history.

The first person to send in all correct answers will receive a packet of native Missouri wildflower seed. In case of a tie, each person will receive a packet of seeds. If there are no completely correct entries, the entry with the most of correct answers wins. Send answers to Sylvia Forbes, editor, by June 14th.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS*

Millions of trees are harvested each year to make products, many of which are reusable or recyclable. By reusing or recycling, we can save in the energy costs (and pollution) of production, reduce waste disposal costs and leave more room in landfills. How many ways can you save a tree? Here's a few ideas.

Reduce the amount of junk mail you receive. The average American receives the equivalent of 1 1/2 trees in junk mail per year. That's 100 million trees per year in junk mail sent in the U.S. By writing to Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, 11 W. 42nd St., PO. Box 3861, New York, NY 10163-3861, you can have your name stopped from being sold to most large mailing list companies. This may reduce your junk mail up to 75%. You may also be able to recycle the paper, as many recycling places take newsprint, computer, white, and colored paper.

Think twice about paper grocery bags. It takes one 15-20 year-old tree to produce 700 grocery bags. These bags are made from virgin paper, because it is thought that the long fibers are needed to strengthen bags for heavy loads. If you have only one or two items, don't take a bag. For more items, bring your own reusable cloth bag, or bring your own paper bags from a previous shopping trip. (Don't use plastic bags at all - they are made of non-renewable resources, and either they do not degrade, or the "biodegradable" ones just break up in pieces.



Recycle old newspapers. It takes over 500,000 trees for the production of the Sunday newspaper each week! The average person receives about 120 pounds of newspapers each year. Separate the newspaper into regular paper and glossy, and return the regular paper to a recycling center. The glossy paper is not recyclable in most areas yet. In addition to not filling up the landfills as fast, making recycled paper uses 30-35% less energy than making it directly from trees, and reduces air pollution related to making paper 95%.

Use recycled paper. Currently, costs of recycled paper are higher than for virgin paper. Much of this is due to the lower demand. Use recycled paper, and request others to use it also, for items such as newsletters for organizations, reports, letters, etc. As more people use recycled paper, and the demand goes up, the price will come down.

Do you have other ideas on ways to save, promote, or educate on environmental concerns relating to plants? Send them to the editor.

*Statistics from 50 Simple Things You Can Do To Save the Earth, by The Earth Works Group

There is that in the glance of a flower which may at time control the greatest of creation's braggart lords. *John Muir*

 **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** 

- Monday, June 11
7 pm, Englewood
Edible Native Plant Potluck, a joint event of the Jefferson City and Columbia chapters. Meet at the clubhouse in Englewood, which is 4 miles East of Hwy 63, on the Columbia Regional Airport Road.
- June 15-17
All chapters
Annual Meeting of the Missouri Native Plant Society at Stockton Lake State Park. See front page for details. Be sure to make reservations!!! See you there!
- Saturday, June 23
8:00 am, St. Louis
Field Trip to Tucker Prairie in search of the Ragged Orchid. Meet "Under the Dove" (I-270 & Manchester Rds.) at 8 am of at the gas station at I-70 and the Hatton Exit at 10 am. Coordinated by Jim Bogler.
- Monday, June 25
7:30 pm., Columbia
Work Meeting on the MKT Trail interpretive brochure. Those interested in developing an interpretive guide to the plants along the Columbia part of the trail should meet at the Department of Conservation, 1110 S. College, Columbia.
- Thursday, June 28
7:30 pm., St. Louis
Monthly Meeting of the St. Louis chapter, held at the Ridgway Center, of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Speaker will be Louis G. Brenner presenting "The Recent Intrusion of Forests in the Ozarks."
- Thursday, June 28
7:00 pm, Springfield
Monthly meeting of the Springfield Chapter, to be held at the Springfield Nature Center. Topic to be announced.
- Saturday, June 30
9 am, Springfield
Field Trip to Shepherd of the Hills Hatchery Wildlife Area. Meet at the Springfield Nature Center.
- Saturday, July 7
9:00 am, St. Louis
Educational Slide Show Workshop, held at the Missouri Botanical Garden. They will be working on the Summer slide show.
- Monday, July 9
7:30 pm, Columbia
Monthly Meeting of the Columbia chapter, at Farm & Home Savings, on Broadway & 8th Streets. Speaker to be announced.
- Saturday, July 14
afternoon, Jeff City
Fourth Annual Picnic of the Jefferson City chapter, to be held at Ann Wakeman's place.
- Thursday, July 26
7:00 pm, Springfield
George Yatskievych will present a program on the revision of the Flora of Missouri, at the monthly meeting of the Springfield chapter, at Springfield Nature Center.
- Thursday, July 26
7:30 pm, St. Louis
Monthly Meeting of the St. Louis chapter, at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Speaker will be Larry Morrison, presenting "The Other Side of the River."
- Saturday, July 28
5-8:30 pm, St. Louis
Prairie Walk and Supper with Bill Davit, at the Arboretum in Gray's Summit, MO. Reservations required - \$10 for Mo. Bot. Garden members, \$13 for non-members. Call 314-557-5138 or 314-742-3512.
- Saturday, July 28
9 am, Columbia
Field Trip to a 3/4 mile long glade on Jefferson City dolomite, near the Calloway Nuclear Power Plant. Meet at the Nowell's parking lot by Hwy 63 and I-70. Bring lunch. Led by Greg Gremaud, from the Department of Conservation.
- ✓ Saturday, August 4
9:00 am, St. Louis
Educational Slide Show Workshop, held at the Missouri Botanical Garden. They will be working on the Summer slide show.
- 7 Saturday, August 11
9 am, St. Louis
Field Trip to Gordon Moove Prairie. Meet at the Gallaria, Clayton & Brentwood Blvd, at the N.E. corner of the lot. Coordinated by Gary Shackelford.
- Monday, August 13
7:30 pm, Columbia
The Monthly Meeting of the Columbia chapter will be a walk along the Sesquicentennial Native Tree Trail on the UMC campus. Meet at the South steps of Jesse Hall (bldg with the big dome).
- Saturday, August 18
8:00 am, Jeff City
The Jefferson City chapter's all day Field Trip to the Springfield Nature Center, led by Ginny Wallace. Meet at the Department of Conservation for car pooling.
- ✓ Saturday, August 18
8 am, St. Louis
Field Trip to Pickle Springs Natural Area in search of Goodyears. Meet "Under the Dove" (I-270 and Manchester Rd, West Co. shopping center) or at Pickle Springs at 10 am. Coordinated by Jim Bogler.
- Wed Aug 22
Thursday, August 23
7:30 pm, St. Louis
Monthly Meeting of the St. Louis chapter, held at the ~~Missouri Botanical Garden~~. Speaker to be announced.
St. Louis County Library
- Saturday, August 25
7:45 am, Meramec St. Pk
Canoe Trip down the Meramec River, looking at riparian communities. After the canoe trip, we will look for Orobanche, led by George Yatskievych. This is a joint event of the Columbia, Jefferson City, and St. Louis chapters. Reservations are required for the canoeing portion. Call Sylvia Forbes at 314-446-0222 for more detailed information.
- Saturday, August 25
9 am, Springfield
Field Trip to Grand Gulf State Park near Thayer (South of West Plains). Meet at Temple Hall, West Loading Dock, SWMU



Summary of Minutes of the April 7, 1990, Quarterly Board Meeting Camdenton, Missouri

The meeting was called to order at 7:56 pm. A quorum of board members were present. Pat Harris took the minutes. Tim Nigh, Linda Ellis, Linda Godby, Mike Currier, Mike Skinner and David Skinner were commended for their efforts for arranging the quarterly board meeting.

Committee Reports

There was no treasurer's report. Ken McCarty sent a resignation letter in February, and his office has not yet been filled. There are problems with people not getting newsletters, and names not getting into the mailing database.

There were no reports for the Missouri Flora Atlas, Membership, Newsletter, Editorial, or Archives committees.

Field Trip Committee - Tim Nigh arranged the field trips for the April meeting. He plans to schedule future meetings the same way - with everyone staying at the same place, and eating a common meal on Saturday evening. The next meeting is set for June 15-17, at Stockton State Park Marina. The buffet will consist of chicken, roast beef, ham, side dishes, and dessert, at a cost of \$10 each. Reservations are required. Tom Tony will give a program on Friday evening. The theme for the weekend will be prairies. The September theme will be sinkhole ponds, and will be in the Van Buren area.

Environment/Education Committee - Pat and Jack Harris are the new chairs. Pat Harris reported that since DNR is giving grants for planting trees, and Forest Park in St. Louis has established a Tree Trust, we should encourage them to plant native Missouri trees. There needs to be more natural landscaping, with trees in their natural habitat. Bill Summers said he would write letters. Merv Wallace said MONPS could be lulling people into a false sense of security by planting trees (to eliminate air pollution). Several suggestions were made on recycling. Bill suggested that this committee could be separated into two committees, and guidelines established. This will be on the December agenda. Tim Nigh suggested that the committee choose a couple of issues to focus on at a given time.

Bylaws Committee - Sue Hollis reported that the bylaws committee is still working on proposed changes, and hopes to have it ready for review soon.

Old Business

Pins/T-shirts - Linda Ellis reported that there are a few T-shirts left. She is working on a design for a new T-shirt. Bill Summers stated that there were still orchid pins left for sale.

Native Plant Legislation - Tim Nigh reported that nothing has happened this session. A motion was made by Jody Eberly and seconded by Larry Houf that Bill Summers write a letter to Jim H. Wilson at the Dept. of Conservation requesting the new botanist (Tim Smith) to spend time on Native Plant Legislation.

MONPS may need to form a stance and testify. The motion carried.

Sue Hollis stated that there are rumors that the Highway Department may increase mowing frequency. Everyone should write letters to Wayne Muri at the Highway Department and to legislators to encourage less mowing.

Membership chairman - this position is still vacant. George Yatskievych suggested we ask Tim Smith or his wife Leah, if either would be interested. Dave Witten of Columbia has volunteered to keep up the state membership database - he may be able to work with the membership chair.

New Business

Eastern Native Plant Alliance - Linda Ellis reported that last year a directory was published of all who joined, and they are developing a brochure to encourage responsible purchasing of native plants and gardening practices. Linda wants copies of any catalogues with plants for sale that you know aren't nursery propagated. The next meeting is in July at the Crosby Arboretum in Mentor, Ohio. Sue Hollis suggested we make a grant to defray Linda's expenses to the Alliance meeting, which was tabled until the June meeting.

Nominations for Achievement Awards - Karen Haller reported that she and Susie Russell are on the committee. Linda Ellis also volunteered for the committee. Karen read the list of awards and certificates and their requirements. The awards have been given periodically, but the certificates have not been given out. After discussion, Tim Nigh moved to discontinue the certificates as of January 1, 1991, which passed.

Natural Heritage Inventory Forms - George Yatskievych reported that the forms have been changed. Holly Wheeler, in charge of the inventory which tracks rare species and communities, would like more submissions, as well as updates. Many people and agencies request reports from the database to determine if their construction projects will impact these locations. This information is being compiled on a national level through The Nature Conservancy, and will eventually be plotted on topographic maps. To obtain report forms, as well as a list of rare & endangered species, write:

Holly Wheeler, Database Manager
Natural History Section
Missouri Dept. of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Elections - Bill Summers stated that we need to elect two new board members for a two-year period to take office in June. Both Linda Ellis and Larry Houf indicated an interest. We will need a nominating committee and an election, which will require two separate mailings. The nominating committee appointed was Joanna Turner, chair, and Jim Bogler, Pat Grace and Rad

Widmer. The committee and the offices open will be published in the next Petal Pusher.

Members Not Receiving Newsletters - Since we have no treasurer, membership information is not getting into the database, and people are not getting their newsletters. There was discussion about the treasurer and membership chairman being the same person. The membership chair needs to read the mail and route mail to the appropriate chapter. Tim Smith, Leah Smith, and Dave Witten were suggested as candidates. George recommended that outgoing mail contain the phrase "ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED." Joanna Turner moved that people who haven't been receiving mailing have their state membership extended one year at no cost, which passed.

Stream Identification Signs - the Highway Department has not been replacing signs with the stream name, after construction. Tim Nigh moved that Bill Summers write a letter to the Highway Department encouraging them to replace signs, which passed.

New Chapter - Sybil Amelon from the Houston area is interested in forming a new chapter. The board was in favor of supporting the new chapter formation.

Chapter Reports

Columbia - Martha Folk reported good attendance at meetings, new members, and plans for a booth at Earth Day.

Jefferson City - Merv Wallace reported a fundraiser at the Mall, and plans for field trips this spring, and a native potluck this summer.

Kansas City - Sue Hollis reported plans for a booth at Earth Day, nature walks at Burr Oak Woods, and plans to participate in May Day festivities at Powell Center. They are developing a flier to advertise the KC chapter. The Plant Society and Sierra Club are doing joint field trips. The Burroughs Audubon Society in KC nominated Linda Ellis as Conservationist of the Year.

Kirksville - no report.

St. Louis - Gary Shackelford reported a meeting location change to Ridgway Center at the Mo. Botanical Garden. They have several field trips planned, as well as a booth for Earth Day. They are developing three educational slide shows for the Mo. Botanical Garden, on Spring, Summer, and Fall, and encourage anyone to submit slides.

Springfield - Louise Wienckowski reported an excellent native plant potluck. Their president, Tim Smith, is moving, and Steve Timme, from Pittsburgh, Kansas, will be the new president. They have planned meetings and field trips, and will lead wildflower walks and do plantings for Earth Day.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm.

BE DEFERENT TO TREES

by May Carolyn Davies

*The talking oak
To ancients spoke.*

*But any tree
Will talk to me.*

*What truths I know
I garnered so.*

*But those who want to talk and tell
And those who will not listeners be,
Will never hear a syllable
From out of the lips of any tree.*



BOTANICAL BOOK REVIEW

by Sylvia Forbes

Cooking With Flowers - Jenny Leggatt, author

Don't look at this cookbook unless you've already eaten! The stunning full-page photos showing all types of tasty dishes mixed and garnished with colorful flower petals is enough to tempt anyone's appetite. Tantalizing dishes such as: pumpkin soup with sage; spinach, bacon and lily salad; lemon balm and elderflower sorbet; Moroccan chicken with pistachios, apricots, roses and marigolds; and a variety of other recipes will challenge even the grandest gourmet chef in uniqueness and appeal.

While most of the edible flowers used in cooking the dishes described are not native to Missouri, some are naturalized in our landscape, such as Bee Balm (Monarda didyma), Chicory (Cichorium intybus), Red Clover (Trifolium pratense), Day Lilies (Hemerocallis sp.), Mint (Mentha sp.), Dandelion (Taraxacum officinale), Chickweed (Stellaria sp.), and others. Many others mentioned are easy to grow, such as Nasturtium, Hollyhock, Lavender, Pelargonium (the ones with scented leaves), and Stocks. A handy reference list of the edible flowers used in the book, along with their scientific names and flowering periods, is located in the back of the book, making it easy to know which flowers can be used in cooking these recipes. Also included are instructions on gathering and drying the flowers, crystallizing flowers, and tips for holiday entertaining using flowers.

At \$17.95, this book, published in 1987 by Ballantine Books, is an out-of-the ordinary addition to anyone's kitchen library. If you're tired of cooking the same old chicken casserole, this book has just the recipes to startle and delight your guests!

THE BAREFOOT BOY

by John Greenleaf Whittier

Blessings on thee, little man,
Barefoot boy, with cheek of tan!
With thy turned-up pantaloons,
And thy merry whistled tunes;
With thy red lip, redder still
Kissed by strawberries on the hill;
With the sunshine on thy face,
Through thy torn brim's jaunty grace;
From my heart I give thee joy,--
I was once a barefoot boy!
Prince thou art,-- the grown-up man
Only is a republican.
Let the million-dollared ride!
Barefoot, trudging at his side,
Thou hast more than he can buy
In the reach of ear and eye,--
Outward sunshine, inward joy;
Blessings on thee, barefoot boy!

Oh for boyhood's painless play,
Sleep that wakes in laughing day,
Health that mocks the doctor's rules,
Knowledge never learned of schools,
Of the wild bee's morning chase,
Of the wild-flower's time and place,
Flight of fowl and habitude
Of the tenants of the wood;
How the tortoise bears his shell,
How the woodchuck digs his cell,
And the ground-mole sinks his well;
How the robin feeds her young,
How the oriole's nest is hung;
Where the whitest lilies blow,
Where the freshest berries grow,
Where the groundnut trails its vine,
Where the wood-grape's clusters shine;
Of the black wasp's cunning way,
Mason of his walls of clay,
And the architectural plans
Of gray hornet artisans! --
For, eschewing books and tasks,
Nature answers all he asks;
Hand in hand with her he walks,
Face to face with her he talks,
Part and parcel of her joy,--
Blessings on the barefoot boy!

Oh for boyhood's time of June,
Crowding years in one brief moon,
When all things I heard or saw,
Me, their master, waited for.
I was rich in flowers and trees,
Humming-birds and honey-bees;
For my sport the squirrel played,

Plied the snouted mole his spade;
For my taste the blackberry cone
Purpled over hedge and stone;
Laughed the brook for my delight
Through the day and through the night,
Whispering at the garden wall,
Talked with me from fall to fall;
Mine the sand-rimmed pickerel pond,
Mine the walnut slopes beyond,
Mine, on bending orchard trees,
Apples of Hesperides!
Still as my horizon grew,
Larger grew my riches too;
All the world I saw or knew
Seemed a complex Chinese toy,
Fashioned for a barefoot boy!

Oh for festal dainties spread,
Like my bowl of milk and bread;--
Pewter spoon and bowl of wood,
On the door-stone, gray and rude!
O'er me, like a regal tent,
Cloudy-ribbed, the sunset bent,
Purple-curtained, fringed with gold,
Looped in many a wind-swung fold;
While for music came the play
Of the pied frogs' orchestra;
And, to light the noisy choir,
Lit the fly his lamp of fire.
I was monarch; pomp and joy
Waited on the barefoot boy!

Cheerily, then, my little man,
Live and laugh, as boyhood can!
Though the flinty slopes be hard,
Stubble-speared the new-mown sward,
Every morn shall lead thee through
Fresh baptisms of the dew;
Every evening from thy feet
Shall the cool wind kiss the heat;
All too soon these feet must hide
In the prison cells of pride,
Lose the freedom of the sod,
Like a colt's for work be shod,
Made to tread the mills of toil,
Up and down in ceaseless moil;
Happy if their track be found
Never on forbidden ground;
Happy if they sink not in
Quick and treacherous sands of sin.
Ah! that thou couldst know thy joy,
Ere it passes, barefoot boy!



TIPS FOR CHAPTERS

Does your chapter do much correspondence? Speed up the process of addressing envelopes. You can get 1000 wet-and-stick return address labels for \$1.50 (such a deal!!!), which includes postage. Write Imprint Products, 70 Randall Ave, Rockville Centre, NY 11571, for information.

Does your chapter need to raise money? Consider selling books on various aspects of botany. As a non-profit organization, you can buy books wholesale for reselling. For example, buy books from the Missouri Conservation Department wholesale, such as Missouri Wildflowers, or Wild Edibles of Missouri, and resell them. Most members will want to buy these books anyway, so why not have a sales table at meetings? Book companies usually have a minimum order of 10-12 books, so you may want to call or write for minimum orders and shipping rates before you buy. You can make 40-50% on books, and can even give members a discount from retail prices, as an added benefit of membership.

Do members grow native plants? Consider having a plant trade, plant sale, or a silent auction. Plant trades can be among members at meetings. A silent auction can be with donated or member-grown plants. Hold a plant sale for the public. Besides raising money, it informs people about the benefits of native plants, and publicizes your chapter. Good places for plant sales are local farmers' markets, in front of grocery or department stores (with permission), or at local celebrations, such as craft fairs, centennial celebrations, etc.

Does your chapter do monthly mailings? Consider mailing five extra newsletters or announcements each time, to different potential members in the community. Potential members might be nursery or landscape owners, landscape architects, gardeners or garden club members, science teachers, and members of other nature organizations. You may want to target specific people depending on the topic of your meeting or event (i.e. gardeners, for a meeting on plant propagation).

Make a point of thanking people who help in various activities of the Society. It's always nice to have your efforts noticed. Have you thanked your chapter representative, who spent their own time and money to travel to meetings to represent you? How about your program chairman, for arranging all the speakers you enjoyed at meetings? Or the person who led the last field trip? Or the members of a committee? If those who make small efforts are noticed, they may be willing to make larger efforts for the Society.

To publicize events, besides the all-important press releases, contact a free lance reporter, to see if they will do a story on your event. Call the local radio and TV stations and ask/offer to be on a talk show. Send the local TV weatherman a corsage or T-shirt, to advertise an event.

Have you got some good ideas that can help a chapter? Send them to the editor.

PAWPAW PREVENTION

An extract from the bark of the pawpaw tree has been developed at Purdue University, for use as a biological pesticide. Jerry McLaughlin, professor in the chemistry department, has been developing the extract since 1981. The powdered bark alone of the pawpaw tree is successful in treatment of squash bugs, cabbage worms, bean leaf beetles and striped cucumber beetles, as well as a dilution of the powder, and the extract. The pawpaw, a native Missouri plant, is found in low bottom woods and wooded slopes throughout most of Missouri, except for some of the extreme northern counties.

Fall Board Meeting and Field Trip, Sept. 14-16

The fall meeting and field trips will be held at Big Springs on the Current River near Van Buren. The theme will be sinkhole ponds. There will be a Friday night program, field trips on Saturday and Sunday, and a barbecue and meeting Saturday night. The event will be centered at Big Springs Lodge. There are outstanding 1,2,3 bedroom cabins available. Call (314)323-4423 to make reservations now, because they fill up quick! More details in the next newsletter.

The tree of knowledge in your garden grows,
Not single, but at every humble door.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

1990 BOARD MEETINGS

Upcoming quarterly MONPS board meetings are listed below. All members are invited to attend the board meetings, as well as the field trips which are scheduled in conjunction with the meetings.

June 16-17: Stockton State Park (Ann mtg) - prairies
Sept 15-16: Winona, Shannon Co, Tupelo - sinkholes
Dec 8th: Rolla - no field trips

PLEASE RENEW YOUR DUES!!!

If you are not sure if you have paid dues for 1990, check with the treasurer of your local chapter. OTHERWISE, THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE!!

Due to the death of two family members of the editor, and problems with the membership database, the March-April issue was not printed. We hope that members will enjoy this double issue instead. Please send announcements, articles, recipes, letters, comments, and other contributions for the June-July issue of the Petal Pusher by July 15, 1990, to Sylvia Forbes editor, 4482 Southview Dr., Columbia, MO 65203.

1989-91 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS
of the
MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President

Bill Summers
PO Box 6975
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-843-0862

Vice-President

Karen Haller
618 Spring Meadow Dr.
Ballwin, MO 63011
314-227-5693

Secretary

Sylvia Forbes
4482 Southview Dr.
Columbia, MO 65203
314-446-0222

Treasurer

Open

Appointed Advisor

Open

Immediate Past President

Doug Ladd
The Nature Conservancy
2800 S. Brentwood
St. Louis, MO 63144
314-968-1105

Field Trips

Tim Nigh
MO Dept. of Conservation
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
314-751-4115

BOARD MEMBERS

Jody Eberly
Rt. 2, Box 181
Mountain View, MO 65548
417-934-2759

Linda Ellis
911 W. 48th St., #105
Kansas City, MO 64112
816-472-0227

Larry Houf
Rt. 2, Box 181
Mountain View, MO 65548
417-934-2759

Joanna Turner
166 N. Brentwood
St. Louis, MO 63105
314-727-9029

Louise Wienckowski
1423 N. Summit
Springfield, MO 65802
417-869-8074

George Yatskievych
Missouri Botanical Garden
PO Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166
314-577-9522

APPOINTED CHAIRS

Membership
Open

Environment/Education
Pat & Jack Harris

Archives
Sue Taylor
Missouri Botanical Garden
PO Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166
314-577-5169

Editor, Missouri Flora Atlas
Wallace Weber
Dept. of Biology
Southwest MO State Univ.
Springfield, MO 65804-0095
417-836-5883

Editor, Missouriensis
Paul Redfearn
Dept. of Biology
Southwest MO State Univ.
Springfield, MO 65804-0095
417-836-5882

Editorial Committee
David Castaner
Doug Ladd
Nancy Morin
George Yatskievych

Editor, Petal Pusher
Sylvia Forbes

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES

Columbia
Martha Folk
1 E. Ridgeley Rd.
Columbia, MO 65203
314-442-2369

Jefferson City
Herbe Domke
Rt. 2, Box 477
New Bloomfield, MO 65063
314-295-4220

Kansas City
Sue Hollis
3311 Gillham Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64109
816-561-9419

Kirksville
Melvin Conrad
Science Division
Northeast MO State Univ.
Kirksville, MO 63501
816-785-4623

St. Louis
Gary Shackelford
13 Scarsdale
St. Louis, MO 63117
314-997-2038

Springfield
Wallace Weber
Dept. of Biology
Southwest MO State Univ.
Springfield, MO 65805-0095

Missouri Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 6612
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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