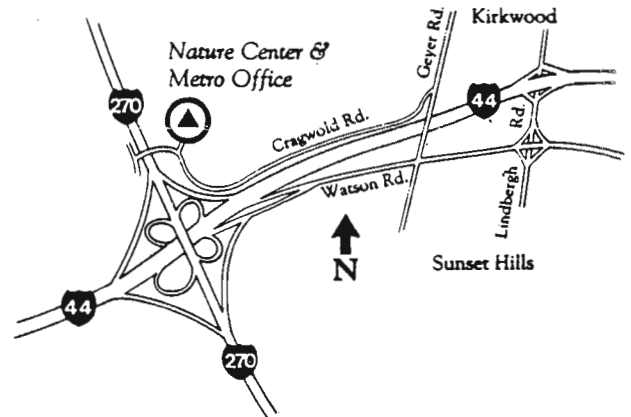


CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 22, Wed., 7:30PM, St. Louis** **Spring Wildflower Slide Show** put together by the St. Louis Chapter Education Committee for use by teachers will be demonstrated by MONPS member and teacher John Oliver. Monthly meeting, Ridgway Center, Missouri Botanical Garden. **NOTICE: MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO FOURTH WEDNESDAY.**
- Feb. 10** **DUE-DATE FOR MATERIAL FOR MARCH-APRIL PETAL PUSHER.** Please send field trip information and articles to the editor by this date. Articles should be double-spaced and have the author's name, address, and phone number on them. If article has been wordprocessed please send copy on disk, which will be returned.
- Feb. 26, Wed., 7:30PM, St. Louis** **Itty-bitty Tree Flowers**, slide show by Dorothy Cole. Monthly meeting, Ridgway Center, Missouri Botanical Garden. **NOTICE: MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO FOURTH WEDNESDAY.**
- Feb. 29, Sat., 10AM, St. Louis Nature Center** **SPECIAL SESSION! of MONPS Board** to set the Society's objectives, priorities, and short- and long-range goals. All Board Members, especially Chapter Representatives, are urged to attend. **ALL SOCIETY MEMBERS** are invited to come and express their ideas about the future of the Society. We need to know by Feb. 1 if you will be attending. Call president Karen Haller 314-227-5693, or write to secretary Sylvia Forbes, 4482 Southview Dr., Columbia, MO 65203. If you cannot attend but wish to express your viewpoints, send your written comments to Sylvia.
- March 27-28, Fri-Sat., time t.b.a. Cape Girardeau** **Towards a Vision for Missouri's Public Forests**, conference (cost expected to be ca. \$15). Look for more details in March-April *Petal Pusher*. Southeast Missouri State University.
- April 10** **DUE-DATE FOR MATERIAL FOR MAY-JUNE PETAL PUSHER.** Please send field trip information and articles to the editor by this date. Articles should be double-spaced and have the author's name, address, and phone number on them. If article has been wordprocessed please send copy on disk, which will be returned.
- May 1-3, Fri-Sun. Reis Biological Station** (See article on page 5) **Board Meeting and field trips**, which will include a float trip on Huzzah Creek and a visit to a nearby fen. Accommodations at the biological station are adequate for 30 persons in the lodge and four-person cabins. Bring sleeping bags, as bedding is not provided. Additional space is available for tent camping. Contact Tim Nigh or Tim Smith 314-751-4115 to reserve space at the station. The nearest motel accommodations are in Steelville, approx. 12.5 mi. to the west. For motel rooms, contact Rainbow Motel, Hwys. 19 and 8, Steelville, Mo, 314-775-2450 or 775-9360. Rates start at \$18.75.
- June 26-28, Fri-Sun., Lake of the Ozarks State Park** **Board Meeting and field trips** in Miller and Camden counties. Arrangements are being made for a group camp at the state park. Field trips in the area may include fens, glades, and savannas. Watch upcoming newsletters for details.



Sept. 11-13, Fri-Sun.,  
Burr Oak Woods  
Nature Center, Blue  
Springs

Board Meeting and joint meeting with the Kansas Wildflower Society. Tentative plans are to have a half day of speakers on the theme of the prairie transition region. Field trips will be on the grounds of the nature center property with a possibility of other trips in the Kansas City area.

Dec. 5, Sat.,  
Columbia

Annual business meeting at Missouri Dept. of Conservation Fish and Wildlife Research Center. No plans for field trips at this time.

## NATIVE PLANTS IN THE EXTREME

by Linda Ellis

Probably one of the most frustrating problems for the amateur botanist is encountering plants that, due to influences of the environment, have taken on an appearance different from what is found in popular literature. Roadside plants are subject to mowing. Plants sometimes get eaten. Extremes of seasonal weather, not unheard of in our part of the country, can cause plants to take on an appearance that sometimes defies all searches.

For example, in 1983 I was asked to draw a number of different plants and animals for one of the state parks in southwestern Missouri. I was a fledgling, fascinated by plants, but woefully lacking in experience as far as really knowing plants was concerned. One of the plants on the list was Blue Sage (*Salvia azurea*). I knew just enough to be able to key a plant, but I just had never seen this particular one often enough to know when I was seeing an anomaly. On a stretch of roadside, I saw a flash of blue and stopped. The plant keyed to the right *Salvia* but was about 9 or 10 inches tall, and the blue flowers were as closely spaced as those of a Snapdragon.

I now know some of the expressions that plants can take after an application of the county blade, but then I didn't. I dutifully drew that plant, which was met by looks that said, "What is that?"

I produced my photo. They agreed that it was the correct plant, but then showed me the typically spindly, wind-beaten Blue Salvia. My drawing was technically correct, but didn't really represent the species I was trying to portray. However, the experience opened my eyes to the possibilities of

extremes, and I regard the episode as having been an extremely valuable one.

The next time I came across a plant extreme was at Niawathe Prairie. The southern-most section of this diverse prairie preserve has a wet swale running through it, and I came upon a plant with a perfect ring of blue flowers so compact that it resembled a Zinnia. I took a picture of that plant, both top and side views, and that mystery slide stayed in my "to key" file for a couple of years. It was the side view that finally gave it away. You could see that the plant had been bitten off and knocked down. In a supreme effort to produce flowers, it had sprouted many blossoms on what was left of the stem. Using purely morphological characters, I was able to determine that the plant was *Lobelia syphilitica*, not your typical

*Lobelia* mind you, but that plant just the same.

When you are out in the field really looking at plants, not as they are in the field guides, but as they express the effects of their environment, you have to tap into a part of your visual process that you may not have exercised before. Plants that you run into may have been subjected to drought, mowers, insects,

and environmental extremes. If the larvae of the Silvery Checkerspot butterfly have completely defoliated a White Crownbeard (*Verbesina virginiana*), you still need to be aware of the winged stems. If you see a white-flowered roadside plant, remember that Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) occasionally has a white form.

The best way to avoid these exceptions of form is to frequent an area that you know has a good variety of plants and to visit it often. That way, you can observe plants as they progress through their life cycle. If you know that a Button Snakeroot (*Liatris pycnostachya*) blooms at a certain place along your



wanderings, you won't be fooled by the abnormal expression you may find. Even in your own garden, if you cultivate native plants, you will see a different kind of Button Snakeroot, one that has seen more care and nourishment than its wild counterpart. You will begin to see how the effects of the environment can change the outward appearance of a plant.

Part of the excitement of learning the expressions of nature is to recognize the wonderful malleability of our native plants. Possibly it is a good idea to take the adaptability of nature into our own lives. If you can weather extremes, you can survive. If you recognize when conditions are optimum, you can flourish. Nature is a very good teacher and all of us can learn from her.

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## WANTED: FUN-LOVING PLANT FINDERS

If you are the outdoors type and have time on your hands, the folks at Mark Twain National Forest are looking for you!

More accurately, the Forest Service is looking for prospective bidders to compete for several botanical survey contracts on various ranger districts throughout Missouri. The contracts will be advertised over the next several months.

The purpose of the surveys is to locate threatened, endangered, or rare plants so they can be protected and/or managed, if appropriate.

Persons interested in being placed on the Bidder's List to receive notification of these contracts should send their name and address to: Dennis Hoevelmann, Mark Twain National Forest, 401 Fairgrounds Road, Rolla, MO 65401 or call 314-364-4621.

Included in the advertisement will be a request for background on the bidder's qualifications as well as a technical plan of action. Bidders will be evaluated not just by the price they submit but also by their breadth of experience and by how they propose to survey the contract areas. Awards will be made of the technical/cost relationship that is most advantageous to the government.

If you would like more information concerning these contracts, please contact Lynda Richards, 314-364-4621.

## OZARKS REGIONAL HERBARIUM MOVES

by Louise Wienckowski

Prior to the beginning of the fall semester, the Ozarks Regional Herbarium was moved to a building in downtown Springfield that was donated to the Southwestern Missouri State University by Southwestern Bell. The facility is twice the size of the previous one and accommodates 75,000 plant specimens, including 20,000 bryophytes, in a more accessible and efficient system. The collection of bryophytes is the second largest in the state, surpassed only by the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. Dr. Paul Redfearn, MONPS Board Member and editor of *Missouriensis* is curator of the herbarium.

To prepare a plant for herbarium storage requires many careful steps. First, a plant is collected in the field, the entire plant pulled up with the roots intact. Any seeds, capsules, reproductive or otherwise significant anatomical parts are also collected, if possible. The exact location is noted, including land features such as streams, woods, directional orientation, soil type if known, county and date collected. This information is placed in a notebook and later transferred to a specimen label. The specimen is placed in a plant press, usually constructed of wooden slats and leather straps or medium-weight plywood and wingnuts and containing corrugated cardboard, blotter paper, and newspaper. The plant is placed between two sheets of newspaper with the stem, leaves, flower parts, and roots carefully laid out so as to preserve all identifying characteristics. Blotter paper is placed below and above the folded newspaper, and cardboard forms the outside layers. This arrangement facilitates absorption of moisture from the plant by the blotter paper and quick air-drying through the corrugations of the cardboard. The press is tightened down either by the leather straps or the wingnuts. Under ideal conditions a specimen will dry in 7-10 days; however, a plant dryer will speed the process to 2-3 days.

For herbarium storage the dried plant is glued to acid-free paper, labeled, and shelved in metal cabinets by family, genus, and species. There, it is available for study by students and teachers and other interested botanists, amateur and professional.

## 1992 DEADLINES FOR PETAL PUSHER

by Kay Yatskievych

If you have items for the calendar or would like to submit an article to be published in the *Petal Pusher*, please submit it to the editor by the dates listed below. If you wordprocess your article, much time will be saved if you send it on disc (which will be returned to you), but articles will be considered for publication even if sent handwritten. Please put your name, address, and phone number on any submission.

Feb. 10	March-April issue
Apr. 10	May-June issue
June 10	July-Aug. issue
Aug. 10	Sept-Oct. issue
Oct. 10	Nov-Dec. issue

## BOARD NOMINATIONS

by Louise Wienckowski

Nominating Committee Chairperson

The MONPS Nominating Committee, consisting of Louise Wienckowski, Chairman; Linda Lathrop, Springfield; and Penny Holtzmann, St. Louis, has selected two candidates for the two Board Positions that will become vacant in June 1992.

They are Karen Yates of Louisburg and Ann Wakeman of Jefferson City.

Karen Yates, a member of the Springfield Chapter for about one year, and her husband have operated Hawks Cry Nursery, a small native plants nursery, for three years. They specialize in prairie and glade plants and are now exploring the propagation of woodland plants.

Karen became interested in wildflowers during her pregnancy with her daughter. She was drinking herb teas to enhance her health and discovered that several of the teas recommended for pregnancy were native plants. Karen has lived in the Ozark area of Missouri for 21 years.

Ann Wakeman is the current president of the Jefferson City Chapter of MONPS and has a degree in biology. She grew up in the country and has always



had an interest in wild plants. Ann and her husband are developing 8 acres into a native plant synthesis. They have a wide diversity of topographical areas and are selecting plants specific to prairie, savanna, and wet areas. For the most part, the seed is collected by Ann, who is currently experimenting with native shrub propagation. Ann has been involved with the Jefferson City Chapter for about 5 years.

The MONPS membership is hereby notified that additional nominations will be accepted from the general membership. The procedure requires that a written nomination by one member be accompanied by a written second by another member. In addition, a written acceptance of the nomination by the nominee must be included. The written nominations must be received by Louise Wienckowski, Chairman, Nominating Committee, 1423 N. Summit Ave. Springfield, MO 65802, no later than March 31, 1992. Ballots will be mailed to the membership no later than April 30, 1992, if necessary. Ballot Committee members are: Dan Rice, Chairperson; Mike Laird; and Paul Williams.

If the membership does not submit additional nominations, the above candidates will be elected by acclamation no later than May 20 and no ballot will then be prepared.

## WELCOME NEW CHAPTER

On Saturday, December 7, 1991, the Mountain View Chapter of MONPS officially germinated. With 12 charter members, the chapter plans to have "botanical and edible events" in place of monthly meetings. We will convene at a different member's habitat each time, discuss things of interest, and sample assorted foodstuffs. Our first get-together will be Saturday, December 15, at Kazie Perkins' house in conjunction with the annual Grand Gulf Audubon potluck and birdathon. At that time, we will probably be selecting a new chapter name, officers, and chapter representative. Our interim representative is founding member Kazie Perkins. Charter members include:

Kazie Perkins, Willow Springs  
Tom & Angel Kruzen, Mountain View  
Jack & Marty Toll, Mountain View  
Jody Eberly, Mountain View

Larry Houf, Mountain View  
Johnny & Louise Clinton, Willow Springs  
Steve & Jane Markley, Willow Springs  
Elizabeth Boyle, Willow Springs

We also have several new members recruited and have high hopes that our chapter will be a blooming success in years to come. If you live in the Mountain View, Willow Springs, or West Plains area and would like to be a chapter member, please contact any of the charter members.

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## REIS BIOLOGICAL STATION

The Reis Biological Station is a regional field station used by a consortium of colleges and universities for biological research and education in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri and Arkansas. The property was donated to St. Louis University by the father of Raymond H. Reis, S.J., Professor Emeritus of Biology. The station is located on 225 acres of upland oak-hickory forest within the 1.5 million acre Mark Twain National Forest. It includes a research and teaching laboratory, a lodge used for both housing and class-room instruction, and four-person cabins.

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## NEW PARLIAMENTARIAN

At the 7 December 1991 Board Meeting, president Karen Haller appointed Sue Hollis as Parliamentarian to advise the Board when questions about the content of our new by-laws or parliamentary procedure would expedite the Board's actions. Sue chaired the committee to revise our by-laws.

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## OTHER NEWS FROM 7 DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

Treasurer Rad Widmer reported that the total revenue for the period Sept. 12-Dec. 3, 1991 was \$1,267.25. The total expenses were \$1,611.78, resulting in a decrease of \$344.53. Our checking account balance

as of 3 Dec. is \$7,193.06. Rad stated that we are currently just breaking even and that if we wish to start some special projects we will need to do some fundraising to increase our budget. However, we do have additional assets in the T-shirts that have been paid for but are not yet sold.

Environmental Education Chairpersons Jack and Pat Harris report that an urban forestry advisory council is being set up. Missouri has been divided into seven regions and there will be a council set up in each region. It is being set up with a five-year grant from the federal government. The council will recommend how federal funds will be spent on urban forests. Jack and Pat will get a list of the seven regions and their phone numbers and forward the information to chapter presidents to try to find members interested in serving on the local councils.

Jack suggested developing an informational brochure titled "Why Native Plants," which could be printed in bulk and be available to hand out at any event that any chapter might need it for. The idea met with enthusiastic response and a committee was formed to work on it.

Seven public meetings promoting state park historic site expansion plans are currently being held. People are encouraged to write to the Department of Natural Resources to obtain a copy of the plan, and to attend meetings and make suggestions.

A proposal for designation of the Carmen Springs Natural Area, an area of 3800 acres in the Mark Twain National Forest was reported by Kazie Perkins. Jack Harris will write a letter in support for MONPS and members are urged to also write supporting the natural area.

Sue Taylor has completed a draft of a history of our first twelve years, which is being reviewed for future publication.

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## CHAPTER REPORTS

COLUMBIA (HAWTHORNE) by James Whitley. Heritage Festival was rainy but successful. It was our first opportunity to sell "The Natives Are Restless" T-shirts. We have sold most of our supply.

Several members are cooperating with restoration of prairie areas of the University's Al Gustin Golf Course. John Weston is the coordinator, Merv Wallace is directing seed collection, Matt Gray and Stephanie Smith are putting in much time and effort to

get seed collected. Tucker Prairie and nearby localities are the seed sources. The chapter received a letter from Senator Roger Wilson commending the effort.

The chapter sponsored an adult education Cedar Wreath-making Class and had one wreath-making session for chapter members. Four members made one wreath for themselves and one for sale at Jean Graebner's tree farm, the proceeds going to the chapter.

Our display board was up at the Columbia Entertainment Company during the playing of Chalk Garden and was also at the Columbia Garden Club Flower Show.

Chapter by-laws have been revised and officers elected for the coming year.

In October, the chapter had a potluck dinner and tour of Franklin Farm with John Shopland. Brett O'Brien from the Columbia Parks and Recreation Dept. talked about plantings in the Columbia area at our November meeting. A field trip was held to the Pinnacles.

In the future, a Wildflower propagation workshop will be presented through adult education with Merv Wallace as the instructor. A Native Plant Sale at the Columbia Farmer's Market is planned in April.

ST. LOUIS by Larry Morrison: In September we had an interesting program by Dr. Gayle Fritz of Washington University on the "Uses of Grasses by Prehistoric Native Americans." Dr. Fritz discussed whether or not some of these grasses were 'cultivated,' concluding that probably they had not been.

Our chapter takes a hiatus in the months of November and December, but shall resume monthly meetings in January. We are looking forward to an interesting and eventful new year. Monthly meeting night has been changed to the Fourth Wednesday, but we will still be meeting at the Ridgway Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

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## G. ANDY RUNGE DIES

by *Linden Trial*

G. Andy Runge suffered a heart attack and died during a November hunting trip. He had been a member of the Missouri Native Plant Society since shortly after its inauguration. Despite his many other

activities, he took the time to attend some state board meetings and chapter meetings. Andy Runge was a founding member of the Hawthorn Chapter and wrote the first set of by-laws for the chapter.

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

During the months of June-November, the following persons and organizations joined MONPS. Welcome to all of you. We hope to see you this coming season at some of our events.

Jeanne Albrecht, Edwards  
Amos Baehr, Gladstone  
G. Becker, St. Louis  
Sarah L. Boggs, St. Louis  
Patricia & Ronald Brown, Belleville, IL  
Janet Brownell, Fulton  
Center For Home Gardening, St Louis  
Sue R. Collins, Columbia  
Evelyn Conrad, Kansas City  
Jane Alice Domke, Columbia  
Valerie W. Duffy, O'Fallon  
Rick Edwards, Springfield  
Nancy Evans, Columbia  
Don Falk, St Louis  
Gayle J. Fritz, St Louis  
Wes & Jan Garton, Benton, KS  
Fran & Rich Glass, Crestwood  
Sondra Henderson, Columbia  
Steve Howe, Fenton  
Julie Huddle, Columbia  
Claire Hyman, St Louis  
Sally Jezak, Holt  
Mark R. Kaufmann, Overland  
Kris Ann King, St Charles  
Ester J. Kolling, Columbia  
Bob & Joann Kramer, Trenton, GA  
Elmo Law, Overland Park, KS  
Barbara A. Lee, Columbia  
Betty Lindemann, Florissant  
Kenneth Lynn, Glen Carbon, IL  
Terrie L. McComb, Columbia  
Mark Twain National Forest, Rolla  
Kathleen Metter, Columbia  
Marcia & Patrick Nelson, Fulton  
Mary Jane Palmer, Kirkwood  
Vivian I. Urban, Belleville, IL  
Gwen Waller, Springfield  
Walter D. Wosilait, Columbia

**\*\*\* RENEWAL NOTICE \*\*\***

Dear MONPS member:

It's time to send in your 1992 membership renewal. Your prompt response will be appreciated and will save us the cost of mailing reminders. *Please note:* If you joined July 1 1991 or later, you don't need to renew now. Check the expiration date on your mailing label.

**Where to send your dues**

If you are a member of the **state society only**, send your renewal to:

Rad Widmer  
MONPS Treasurer  
1172B Schulte Hill Dr.  
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

If you are a member of one of the local MONPS chapters, or would like to join one, send your **state dues plus chapter dues** to the chapter treasurer listed below.

**Springfield:**

Tom Gambill  
2850 S. Marlan  
Springfield, MO 65804

**Jefferson City:**

Sheila Murphy  
1006 Fairmount Ct  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**Kansas City:**

Natalia Howard  
4813 Jarboe  
Kansas City, MO 64112

**St. Louis:**

Catherine Filla  
5560 Arthur Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63139

**Hawthorn (Columbia):**

Sally Fancher  
2023 Parkridge Ct.  
Columbia, MO 65203

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h)

**State Membership Categories**

\$9.00 Regular     \$5.00 Student     \$20.00 Family/Contributing     \$25.00 Affiliate     \$200.00 Life

**Chapter Dues**  
(add to state dues)

\$5.00 Springfield  
 \$5.00 St. Louis  
 \$5.00 Jefferson City

\$6.00 Hawthorn (Columbia)  
 \$5.00 Kansas City

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Nixa, MO 65714  
417-725-5724

## INFORMATION ON JOINING MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY: TELL A FRIEND!

**STATE DUES**  
(Chapter dues additional)

Student . . . . . \$5.00  
Regular . . . . . \$9.00  
Contributing . . . . . \$20.00  
Lifetime . . . . . \$200.00

**CHAPTER DUES**

Columbia . . . . . \$6.00  
Jefferson City . . . . . \$5.00  
Kansas City . . . . . \$5.00  
Mountain View . . . . . 0  
St. Louis . . . . . \$3.00  
Springfield . . . . . \$5.00

**MAIL STATE DUES TO: Rad Widmer, Treasurer,  
1172B Schulte Hill Dr., Maryland Hts., MO 63043**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Please mail \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter information.

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Jefferson City, MO 65102

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