

Missouri Native Plant Society

September

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|-------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 6 | Fri., 5:30 PM
Columbia | MKT Trail Walk. Meet at the Rocheport MKT Trail parking lot. |
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| 9 | Mon., 7:00 PM
Columbia | Urban Forest Ecology presented by Alan Rebertus. Monthly meeting held at at Kiwanis Park. |
| | | |
| 14 | Sat., 10:00 AM
Jefferson City | Nature Walk led by MONPS members at Runge Conservation Nature Center. |
| | | |
| 14 | Sat., 9:00 AM
Kansas City | Field Trip to River Bluff Park. We will continue our inventory and enjoy the late summer wildflowers. For more information call Ed O'Donnell (816) 531-4692. |
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| 14 | Sat., 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Gray Summit | Prairie Day. Shaw Arboretum, Gray Summit, Missouri. (See article on page 2.) |
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| 14 | Sat., 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
St. Louis | EcoFair at Monsanto's Chesterfield Village, 700 Chesterfield Parkway North. Many groups involved with environmental issues will be there. Food will be available. |
| | | |
| 18 | Wed., 7:00 PM
Kansas City | Monthly Meeting. Program to be announced. Loose Park Garden Center. Wornall at 51st. |
| | | |
| 20 | Fri., 5:30 PM
Kansas City | Field Trip to Hidden Valley Park in north K. C. This is our last visit here for the year. For directions call Ed O'Donnell (816) 531-4692. |
| | | |
| 20-22 | Fri.-Sun.
Clinton | Fall Field Trips and Board Meeting. See page 3 for details. |
| | | |
| 21-22 | Sat.-Sun.
Columbia | Boone County Heritage Festival. Volunteer helpers are always welcome as are potted plants to sell. For more information or to help, contact Linden Trial (573) 882-9880 ext. 3229 or (573) 445-6680. |
| | | |
| 25 | Wed., 7:30 PM
St. Louis | Edgar Denison's Garden. June Hutson will share her experiences working in Edgar's garden. Monthly meeting at Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Center. |
| | | |
| 28 | Sat., 9:00 AM
Columbia | Mushroom Hike at Three Creeks Conservation Area led by Doug Remington. |

October

- 4-5** Fri.-Sat.
St. Louis **43rd Annual Systematics Symposium.** Theme: New Tools for Investigating Biodiversity. Held at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Registration required. Call (314) 577-9535 for more information.
- 5** **Due Date for Material for November-December *Petal Pusher*.** Please send meeting and field trip information and articles (typed double-spaced) to the editor by this date. If article has been word processed on a Macintosh, please send copy on disk to Pat Harris. Or send by e-mail to: pharris@stlnet.com.
- 9** Wed., 7:30 PM
St. Louis **Rain Forest Adventures:** Bruce Schuette, Naturalist, shows his 1996 Ecuador slides featuring tropical scenes and many exotic insects and plants. "Color commentary" by co-adventurer Fr. James Sullivan. WGNSS monthly meeting held at Powder Valley N.C.
- 12** Sat., 10:00 AM
Jefferson City **Nature Walk** led by MONPS members at Runge Conservation Nature Center.
- 14** Mon., 7:00 PM
Columbia **Management of Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area** program presented by Tom Leifeld. Monthly meeting held at the Midwest Science Center, 4200 New Haven Road.
- 16** Wed., 7:00 PM
Kansas City **Monthly Meeting.** Program to be announced. Loose Park Garden Center. Wornall at 51st.
- 19** Sat., 9:00 AM
Kansas City **Field Trip to Maple Woods Park** for fall colors. This park has forest and old field habitat with lots of persimmons. Take North Oak Trafficway to NE 76th St. and turn east. It goes right to the park. Look for the sign.
- 19** Sat., 9:00 AM
St. Louis **Field Trip to Valley View Glades** led by Jim Bogler. We'll look for the downy gentian. Meet near Dobbs Tire Center, South Co. Shopping Center or at the glade at 10:00 AM
- 23** Wed., 7:30 PM
St. Louis **Annual Members Show & Tell.** Show us where you've been or what you've done this year. Ten slides max. Monthly Meeting at Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Bldg.
- 26** Sat., 8:30 AM
St. Louis **Field Trip to Hughes Mountain** led by Jack & Pat Harris. We'll go to see the fall color and enjoy the scenery. Bring lunch and water. Meet near Dobbs Tire Center, South Co. Shopping Center or at Hughes Mtn at 10:00 AM.



Imagine tall grass prairie in what is now downtown St. Louis stretching from 5th Street 8 miles to the west! Prairie once covered 61% of St. Louis City, 17% of St. Louis County, and 26.7% of Missouri. Today only a small fraction of that total

percent remains. Prairie Day is an excellent way to learn more about this complex ecosystem and have fun too!

Visiting this event will take you back to the time when the pioneers first saw this vast "western" land...when the tall grasses were taller than you could see. Included will be Naturalist led hikes through the restored tallgrass prairie; Native American heritage; interactive games for the kids; birds, mammals insects, and reptiles of the prairie; old time music and entertainment; food (for purchase); historical encampments; and much more.

This **free** event is a great experience for all ages. No reservations are required. For more information call (314) 821-8427.

Shaw Arboretum is located near Gray Summit on I-44 (exit 253) approximately 40 miles SW of St. Louis.

Come Celebrate the Prairie!

1996 Fall Field Trips and Board Meeting September 20-22

We'll be holding our Fall get-together in Clinton, Missouri, home-base of our newest chapter, the Osage Plains. Henry County is an area of transition from the prairie area on the north to the Ozarks on the south. The main river is the Grand River. In St. Clair county in which we will have field trips, the Osage River is the major drainage into Truman Lake. Vegetation of these counties is quite varied: prairies, deciduous forests, the sparse vegetation of glades and finally flood plains. Plan to attend and experience the variability in ecosystems.

A full schedule is planned starting with Friday evening. There will be a slide show presented by members of all the Chapters attending. Each Chapter is asked to bring 20 slides of plants or sites that are unique or special to their area. Also give a description of your geographic area. Don't expect the other person will get the slides together. Find out who may be going and coordinate with them. Let's entice everyone to want to visit our respective areas in the future.

On Saturday, C.F. Eaglesfield will lead us to two sites: Lichen Glade in the morning, and Taberville Prairie in the afternoon. (Field trip areas tentative, depending on plant material.) Dinner will be on your own with the Board meeting beginning at 7:00 PM.

The location for all meetings and field trips will be at the Clinton Vocational School, 5th and Wilson, Clinton. See itinerary below for times.

Lodging:

- HOLIDAY INN (816) 885-6901
Hwy. 7 and Rives Road
Single \$45.00
Double \$48.00

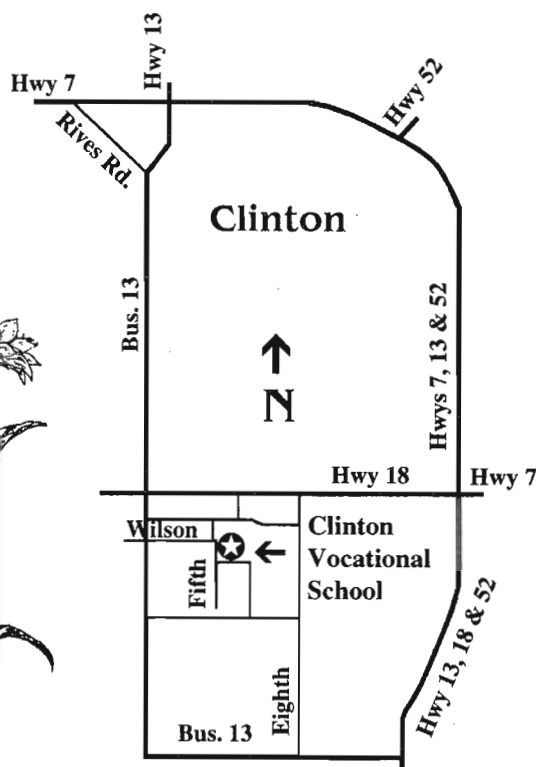
These are discounted prices for MONPS members, tax is included. A block of rooms will be held until September 7th. You must mention the Missouri Native Plant Society for the discount. Indoor pool, hot tub, exercise room, in room coffeemaker, restaurant and lounge.

- SAFARI MOTEL (816) 885-3395
North Jct. Hwy. 7 & 13
1 person \$30.00
1 bed, 2 people \$34.99

- WINCHESTER LODGE (816) 885-2267
North Jct. Hwy. 7 & 13
1 bed \$37.99

Camping:

- TRUMAN LAKE
There are several resorts that offer camping.



Itinerary

- 20 Sept. Fri., 7:00 PM **Get Acquainted**, followed by **Slide Show** at 7:30 PM. Each Chapter is asked to bring 20 slides (at least 20 minutes) of plants or sites that are unique or special in their area of the state. Try to coordinate with other members of your Chapter that will be attending. Refreshments will be available: Cookies, Tea, Coffee. Held at the Clinton Vocational School, 5th and Wilson, Clinton.
- 21 Sept. Sat., 9:00 AM **Field Trip to Lichen Glade**, led by C.F. Eaglesfield. Meet at Clinton Vocational School, 5th & Wilson.
Sat., @ 11:30 PM **Lunch** at Osceola. (Osceola is 28 miles south of Clinton on Route 13.) There is a Cheese Store and Old Plantation Restaurant. Also Prichett's Wild Game Restaurant, but call ahead, (416) 646-9216.
Sat., 1:00 PM **Field Trip to Taberville Prairie Conservation Area**, led by C.F. Eaglesfield. Meet in Osceola
Sat. evening **Dinner**. On your own.
Sat., 7:00 PM **MONPS Fall Board Meeting**: Clinton Vocational School, 5th & Wilson.
- 22 Sept. Sun., 9:00 AM **Optional Field Trip**: Location to be determined. Meet at Clinton Vocational School, 5th & Wilson.

Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights

JUNE 1, 1996

President Larry Morrison, 11 board members and 10 guests met at the Port Cape Girardeau Restaurant in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Treasurer Jack Harris reported a balance of \$11,046.20. The BoD discussed the need to consider options and plans for effective investment of the funds currently in the Society savings account. Our dollar resources would permit prudent action in areas such as a major education/fund raising project, or perhaps supporting a scholarship grant to a deserving botany student, etc. Members are requested to discuss these matters with their Chapter and Society representatives and to make suggestions that should be considered by the Board of Directors.

Current mailing list status is 335.

Committee Reports

Awards: Larry Morrison thanked Karen Haller, Chairman of the Awards Committee, for her and her committee's work. This year MONPS presented two awards: (1) the Plant Stewardship Award to Penny Holtzmann and (2) the Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education Award to Doug Ladd for the text and Frank Oberle for his photographic work in their book Tallgrass Prairie Wildflowers.

Environment & Education Committee: (J. Harris) 1) A brief status report on the Parks & Soils Initiative Petition Campaign was presented. The campaign is proceeding toward a sufficient number of signatures to meet the minimum. But we need many more signatures for a safety margin. This is critical to insure certification by the Secretary of State. Everyone was requested to please continue to obtain signatures and be sure to have the forms notarized and turned in to the address on the back of the petition form. (Editor's note: see final petition report on page 5.)

2) A status report on the proposal by Union Electric Corporation to expand and develop power line transmission capacity in Ste. Genevieve County was discussed. One option of the overall plan would require additional development through an officially designated state Natural Area. The area contains several listed species of native flora. Jim Bogler, Vice-president agreed to write a letter on behalf of the Society in opposition to such development or other disturbance in a natural area.

Membership: Pat Grace received the first "Wear the Coneflower" Badge Program submission on May 30, 1996. She turned it over to Jim Bogler, Chair of the Badge Program for final processing..

Publicity: Nels Holmberg submitted an article on the joint meeting to the Southeast Missouri newspapers. (An article appeared in the Cape newspaper today.) President Morrison sent a notice to the National Wildflower Research Center. It was published in their newsletter.

Old Business

New T-Shirts: Ann Grotjan submitted a new design

proposal to each board member. Lynda Richards suggested the T-Shirt design be co-ordinated with the 20th Anniversary of the Natural Areas Association and be sold at their convention. Pat Harris suggested putting the MONPS logo on the sleeve. It was moved, seconded & carried (MSC) that the design be co-ordinated with the Natural Areas anniversary.

Teaming with Wildlife: Morrison reported that the society had signed up to lend its support to the initiative.

New Business

President Morrison asked for ex post facto board approval for giving a MONPS bandana to John Schwegman, Glen Kruse, and Mark Basinger in appreciation for their help in setting up the ILNPS part of the joint meeting. (MSC)

Native Plant Sale

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1996

10:00 AM — 4:00 PM

SHAW ARBORETUM

In response to increased native plant interest and demand, Shaw Arboretum will be hosting a native plant sale. The event will be held Sunday, September 8, 1996 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM under tents near the main visitor center.

Missouri native plants of prairie, glade, woodland, and wetland will be available, in addition to the best natives for home landscaping. All plants will be sold in containers and are nursery propagated, not wild collected.

A wide selection of natives will be available from some of the finest nurseries in Missouri including: Missouri Wildflowers Nursery, Hamilton Seed and Wildflowers, Pan's Garden, Rock Post Wildflowers Nursery, Gilberg Perennial Farm, Bowood Farms, Forrest Keeling Nursery, Grette Herrick (Cards), H.E. Nurseries, Rick Clinebell, Elixer Farm Botanicals, and Shaw Arboretum. Nowhere else will you find such an extensive collection of Missouri native plants available under one tent.

A normal Arboretum entrance fee of \$3 for adults and \$2 for seniors, 65 and over, are required for all non-Missouri Botanical Garden members. Members are free.

Come explore the arboretum and perhaps take some Missouri native plants home.

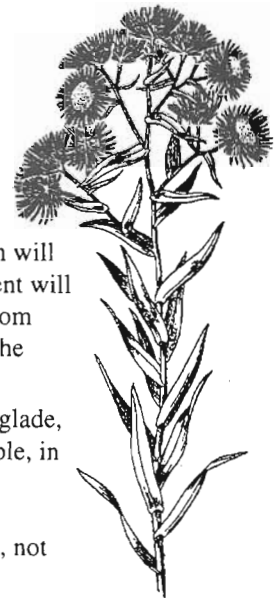
For more information please call the Arboretum at (314) 451-0850 or (314) 451-3512.

Please Note

The Treasurer and the Editor have new e-mail addresses.

Jack Harris, Treasurer: jahar@stlnet.com

Pat Harris, Editor: pharris@stlnet.com



Parks & Soils Campaign:... **Success !!!**

by Jack H. Harris

In a special 5th of July 'icing on the cake' celebration, a group of over 50 Missouri citizens gathered on the lawn and south steps of the State Capitol. Representatives from farm and environmental groups and various individuals were present to witness the submission of well over 270 thousand signatures which had been collected in support of the Parks and Soils Initiative Petition campaign. The local TV and press media were present to record the event. The stacks of boxed petition forms were loaded into a trailered motor boat which was in turn pulled by a large tractor (symbolic of the parks and soils collaborative effort) for delivery to the Secretary of State's offices. The actual numbers of signatures collected for each congressional district was as follows:

District #1: 29,825; District #2: 32,256; District #3: 27,249; District #4: 33,476; District #5: 32,072; District #6: 38,366; District #7: 9,256; District #8: 30,509; & District #9: 37,444. Although the Secretary of State must still certify the final tally, there is every confidence that the result will be positive.

This successful campaign will enable the voters to approve the continuation of the 1/10th of one percent sales tax for 10 more years on the 5 November 1996 ballot. The revenue so derived provides funding of our nationally acclaimed, top quality State Parks and Soil & Water conservation programs.

MONPS was an active supporter of this state wide effort and all members are congratulated for their essential contribution. And the campaign leaders wish to express their sincere appreciation to everyone who devoted their valuable resources, time and energy to the success of the program. Our natural heritage will have a brighter future because of your individual support. So **Mark Your Calendar...** The action now moves to the voting booth.

At the polls on 5 November Missouri voters will have the means to **show** the way to a greener, cleaner 21st century. Be there. *And don't forget to bring a friend.* A registered friend, of course. Every vote counts!



Made Possible by a Stellar Performance

MONPS member and co-editor of the *Petal Pusher*, Carl Darigo spent a **humongous** number of hours in the state parks since October. Nearly every weekend he was out in one of Missouri's state parks collecting signatures for the Parks and Soils Initiative Petition campaign. In all he gathered more than 3,000 signatures in 7 months. Thanks Carl, for all your work to help get the initiative petition on the ballot.

Petal Pusher

Chapter News

Hawthorn — We are official supporters of the Coalition for Responsible Growth in its effort to encourage the Columbia City Council to do a cost analysis of REDI (Regional Economic Development Incorporated) and the Department of Economic Development. Members attending the June meeting had voted unanimously to endorse this effort.

Larry Hine, a Chapter member, has been appointed to the Columbia Parks and Recreation Commission, Hine is very interested in encouraging the city to use native plants on city land.

At our June meeting, Doug LeDoux, a botanist turned entomologist, gave a very informative presentation on prairie insects (beetles in particular) and the plants they are associated with. He began collecting 28 years ago and displayed a number of trays reflecting the results of those years. He also revealed fascinating inside information about the ethics and process of collecting and preserving specimens. LeDoux emphasized how little is known about the insects and how much needs to be documented about localized populations, favored plants, and the effects on populations of various prairie management techniques. Because of the lack of knowledge about prairie insect populations, LeDoux concluded his program with an impressive plea for prairie preservation and restoration.

Osage Plains July Field Trips

by C.F. Eaglesfield

Our field trips have been mainly to Chapel View Prairie and to two privately owned areas, one wooded and the other a prairie. An interesting find was in the edge of the wooded area, standing cypress or wherry (*Gilia rubra*) according to Steyermark and Gleason. *Flora of the Great Plains* calls this plant *Ipomopsis rubra*. The changed name is supported by the pattern of leaf distribution on the stem and by chromosome count and flavonoid chemistry. Another interesting discovery for us was blackberry lily (*Belamcanda chinensis*), native of

Asia, it has become naturalized in many areas but seems to be rare here. Blood milkwort (*Polygala sanguinea*) is extremely common in our prairies and varies in color from dark rose to almost white. Pink milkwort (*P. incarnata*) is rare; have found only two specimens. Other fairly common July flowering plants here include rough buttonweed (*Diodia teres*), grayhead prairie coneflower (*Ratibida pinnata*), long-haired hawkweed (*Hieracium longipilum*), blue hearts (*Buchnera americana*), velvet leaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*), rattlebox (*Crotalaria sagittalis*), fire on the mountain (*Euphorbia cyathophora*), fringed loosestrife (*Lysimachia ciliata*), sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*), tropic croton (*Croton glandulosus*) and many more.



INDIANA'S STATE FLOWER

The May 1996 Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society News, while agreeing with various state designations, such as the lightning bug (*Lecontea angulata*) being the official state insect, the Wabash River the state river and tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) the official tree, questions how the state ever adopted the cultivated peony instead of a native plant, as official state flower. Missourians should take little comfort, however, as some MONPS members have wondered why downy hawthorn (*Crataegus mollis*) continues to rate official state flower status as the plant is not only a tree, but also rarely seen anywhere in the state.



Graphic by Ann Grotjan

LAWNS VS. NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

Wildflower Magazine's Spring 1996 issue carried a very interesting article titled "To Mow or Grow," detailing advantages of natural landscaping over cultivated lawns. The author, Bret Rappaport, is a Chicago attorney who has defended natural landscapers prosecuted for violating local weed laws. The article gives stark facts concerning lawns. The average domestic lawn is about 1/3 acre. Collectively, the USA boasts 20 million acres or 32,000 square miles of lawns, an area roughly the size of New England. Lawns cover more American land than any single crop. Lawns are comprised primarily of three non-native Eurasian grass species which require fertilizers, biocides and more water than provided by rain to remain "healthy." Up to 30% of East Coast water usage and as high as 60% in the West, goes to lawn irrigation. Including fertilizers and biocides, Americans spend \$20 billion annually for lawn maintenance. The author gives numerous useful recommendations to avoid conflicts with neighbors and local authorities, when converting the modern "biological deserts" known as lawns to natural ecosystems.

Diversity: Our Nation's Heritage

by Marlene T. Miller

Even though my husband and I were both born in Ohio and were there until our early 20s, we rarely go East for vacations. We get as far as Ohio to see family, but usually travel west for relaxation and hiking.

This year was different. Our son was married in Florida, and two days later we moved them to North Carolina. We also visited friends in Virginia, then spent time in Ohio. There has been an abundance of rain in most of these areas and unusually mild weather. This meant that even in July, we saw many green grasses, sedges, and wildflowers instead of the dry browns that we frequently encounter this time of year. I thoroughly enjoyed the diversity that we viewed as we traveled in 11 different states. We saw swamps, grasslands, farmlands, prairies, hills, mountains, lakes, streams, rivers, beaches, and the ocean. The soils also varied vastly from state to state.

In all areas, there was evidence of both poor stewardship and conscientious preservation. Several state areas are putting native plantings near highways and areas are being set aside and protected from development. On the other hand, in Florida, for instance, lands are being drained, cleared, and developed at a rampant rate. The Blue Ridge Parkway lands show restoration while the Smoky Mountain National Park shows the scars of heavy tourist use. The good and the bad often are found side by side.

Still, the panoramas that remain with me, are underscored by their elements of diversity. This is what we must pass on to future generations. This is why shared field trips, such as those we recently had with Illinois, are so important. We need to jealously guard Missouri's native species, and we need to support those in other states who are doing the same. If we truly wish to influence the future of these precious resources, our persuasion and inspiration must cross state lines and follow us everywhere we go. We are truly fortunate and our responsibilities are unparalleled. To whom much is entrusted, much is also required.



Missouri Forestkeeper Network

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) invites all interested parties to join them and *Forest Relief of Missouri* in learning about trees and forest health. Volunteers can enroll any time and it is free. For brochures and applications call toll-free at 1-888-9-Forest. Sue Burks, Forest Pathologist, is the project coordinator at MDC.

Where Is the Pencil on a Pencil Flower (*Stylosanthes* sp.)?

by J. M. Sullivan

Probably nowhere! The calyx of this legume forms a very slender tube at its base. The author of the genus, Olaf Swartz, thought of this as like a Greek column, upon which the flower as situated like a Classic work of art. He used the Greek "stylos" which means "column" or "pillar." "*Stylosanthes*" means "column flower."

Evidently a later author wanted to supply a common name for the plant, and decided to do so by translating the genus name. Unfortunately, this one translated the Latin "stylus," rather than the Greek "stylos," and so gave us the enigmatic common name!

In case you are wondering, the slender part of the calyx tube doesn't much resemble either a pencil or a pillar!

Considering That People Tend to Socialize—A Membership Report

by Jack H. Harris

Feeling like you are all alone out there? That you are the sole friend of our native flora in your neighborhood? Or perhaps not so much that you are the sole advocate but more that you could sure use some moral support (really a confirmation of your plant identification efforts)? The map that appears with this article may either confirm or deny any such lingering suspicions. Or it may show that there are others with similar predilections within hailing distance.

In the March-April edition of this newsletter a list of all MONPS members was distributed to each paid up member. While this form of presentation provides much in detail, it is a little onerous to organize into a quick picture of how the membership is distributed around the state. Voilà - a graphic.

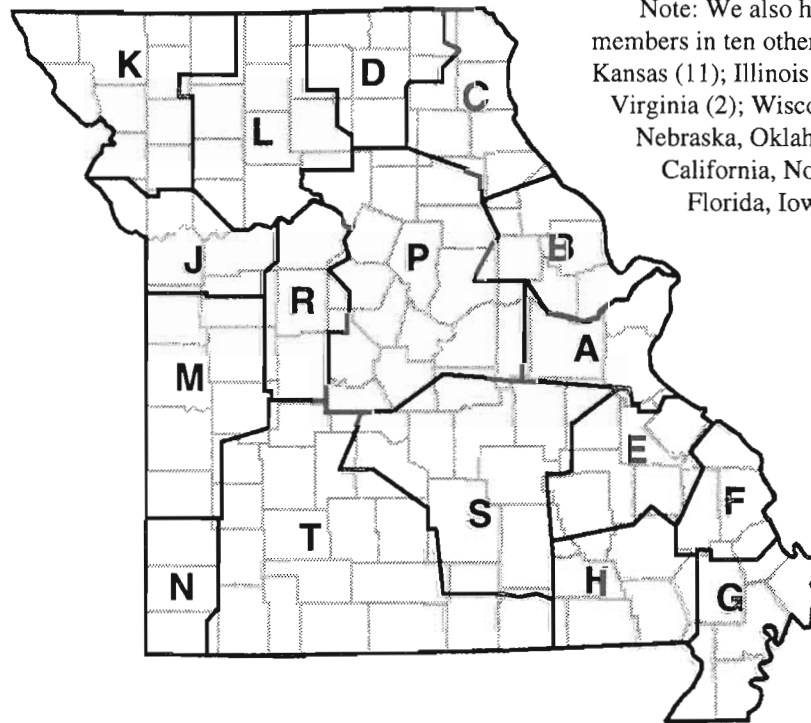
The graphic was prepared by digitizing two maps. One with the county outlines and one with the ZIP code geographic boundaries (at the first 3 digit ZIP level). The ZIP code boundaries are the dark lines and the light gray lines are county boundaries. The computer membership file was sorted by ZIP code and the number of members occurring in each 3 digit ZIP was counted and a table constructed.

The resultant table displays in columns: (1) the 3 digit ZIPs sorted in numerical order; (2) the number of members in each ZIP as of mid-August 1996; and (3) the table to map reference code by letter. The list totals 298 members (organizations and complimentary subscriptions are not included).

Now that you know that you are not a lone native plant enthusiast, perhaps you might consider suggesting a field trip, then a discussion meeting, then a...Chapter? If you find that you are indeed a lone wolf, herbaceous aficionado, recruit a friend; and plant the seed.

Enjoy your native flora!

Zip	# mbr	Ref
630	29	A
631	83	A
633	11	B
634	0	C
635	0	D
636	4	E
637	7	F
638	1	G
639	3	H
640	7	J
641	14	J
644	0	K
645	0	K
646	0	L
647	9	M
648	1	N
650	19	P
651	18	P
652	63	P
653	2	R
654	12	S
655	0	S
656	4	T
657	5	T
658	6	T



Note: We also have thirty-one (31) members in ten other states as follows: Kansas (11); Illinois (6); Arkansas (3); Virginia (2); Wisconsin (2); and Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, California, North Carolina, Florida, Iowa, (1 each).

Welcome to New Members

We're happy to welcome these new members to the Missouri Native Plant Society. We hope you will join us soon at some of our upcoming field trips and meetngs.



Alan & Kathy Journet, Cape Girardeau
 Vivian C. Kuchner, St. Louis
 Kass Lear, Nixa
 Gregory A. Marshall, Kirkwood
 Janet E. Marshall, Kirkwood
 Munsell McPhillips, Webster Groves

Ray Nichols, Arnold
 Jay A. Raveill, St. Louis
 Joan A. Sadorf, Belleville, IL
 Debra L. Story, Troy
 Janet Woods, Winfield
 Laura J. Works, Springfield

