

Missouri Native Plant Society

May

- | | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1-3 | Fri.-Sun.
Kansas City | Powell Garden Spring Garden Festival. Annual fund raiser selling plants from Missouri Wildflower Nursery. Volunteers needed. Call Sue Hollis 816-561-9419 if you can help. |
| | | |
| 2 | Sat., 1:30 PM
Columbia | Bear Creek Trail Walk. Meet at the Antimi Shelter. In case of rain the walk will be held Sunday, May 3. |
| | | |
| 7 | Thur., 5:30 PM
Columbia | Spring Wildflower Walks led by Randal Clark at Rock Bridge State Park. Meet at Devil's Icebox parking lot. Walks held each Thursday through mid May. |
| | | |
| 9 | Sat., 10:00 AM
Jefferson City | Spring Nature Walk at Runge Nature Center. Join MONPS members as they identify what's in bloom along the paths. |
| | | |
| 11 | Mon., 7:00 PM
Columbia | Chapter Meeting. Tentative topic: Edible Wildflowers. Held at the Midwest Science Center, 4200 New Haven Rd. |
| | | |
| 11 | Mon., 7:00 PM
Clinton | Chapter Meeting at the Henry County Courthouse. |
| | | |
| 16 | Sat., 9:30 AM
Jefferson City | Field Trip to Jean Stanford's "Wildfields" near Brazito, MO. Bring something for a potluck lunch after the trip. Meet at Runge Nature Center to carpool. |
| | | |
| 16 | Sat., 9:00 AM
Kansas City | Wildflower Walk at Blue River Glades, Swope Park savanna, and Sager Woods. Meet at the SW corner of Hypermart parking lot (87th St. exit off I-435). Bring water & sack lunch. Call Larry Rizzo, 816-356-2280 ext. 254, for site details. |
| | | |
| 16 | Sat., 9:00 AM
St. Louis | Field Trip to Valley View Glades led by Jim Bogler. Meet at So. County Shopping Center near Dobbs Tire Center at 9:00 AM or at Valley View Glades at 10:00 AM. |
| | | |
| 16 | Sat. | Annual Statewide Butterfly Count. See article on page 4. |
| | | |
| 27 | Wed., 7:30
St. Louis | The Impact of Historical Land Uses on the Flora of Rockwoods Reservation presented by David Bruns, Naturalist, Rockwoods Reservation. Chapter meeting at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Center. |
| | | |
| 29 | Fri., 5:00 PM
Kansas City | Chapter meeting at the garden of Dan Rice. Call Dan for more information and directions 816-461-0206. |

June

- 1** **Due date for material for July–August *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. Disk will be returned. Or send e-mail to: pharris@stlnet.com
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- 8** Mon., 7:00 PM **Chapter Meeting.** Tentative topic: Prairies. Held at the Midwest Science Center, 4200
Columbia New Haven Rd.
-
- 8** Mon., 7:00 PM **Chapter Meeting** at the Henry County Courthouse.
Clinton
-
- 13** Sat., 9:00 AM **Wildflower Walk at Dorsett Hill Prairie** and nearby prairie areas in Cass County. Meet
Kansas City at the SW corner of Hypermart parking lot (87th St. exit off I-435). Bring water & sack
lunch. Call Larry Rizzo, 816-356-2280 ext. 254, for site details.
-
- 13–14** Sat.–Sun. **Field Trip to Bell Mountain Wilderness & Johnson Mountain** led by Casey Galvin.
St. Louis This will be a photography outing, with an evening shoot and an early morning shoot. We
will stay overnight in Ironton at the Fort Davidson Motel, 573-546-7427. Meet at the
motel at 3:00 PM for an evening session at Johnson Mountain. Bring breakfast along for a
sunrise session at Bell Mountain Wilderness. For more information call Casey at
314-970-2451.
-
- 19–21** Fri.–Sun **Annual Meeting & Combined Field Trips with the Iowa Native Plant Society.**
See page 3 for details.
-
- 24** Wed., 7:00 PM **Wildflower Walk at Powder Valley/Emmenegger Park** instead of the usual monthly
St. Louis meeting. Meet at Powder Valley Nature Center parking lot at 7:00 PM. Return by dark.

Meet the MONPS Board

Pam Haverland – Board Member (1996–1999)

Pam lives outside Columbia on 10 acres with her two Cocker Spaniels—Dixie and Abby. She was born and raised in St. Clair County Missouri, south of Osceola near several native prairies. She grew up picking Indian paint brush and shooting stars in the spring and helping in the gardens and hay fields in the summer. Her professional background is not in botany or horticulture—she is a statistician—so native plants is truly a hobby. She has organized and helps make cedar wreaths as a Christmas fund raiser for the Hawthorn Chapter. Professionally, Pam is the Branch Chief for Landscape Analysis and Biometrics at the US Geological Survey-Biological Resources Division's Environmental and Contaminants Research Center. Pam is active in the American Fisheries Society and was recently elected First Vice-President of its North Central Division. She is also a member of the American Statistical Association, The Biometrics Society, and the Society of Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology. Pam's other hobbies include knitting, weaving, basket making, cooking, sewing, and reading.

Daniel R. Rice – Chapter Representative

Dan is originally from Independence, Mo. He has lived in Greeley, Co., Kansas City, Mo. and Raytown, Mo. before settling down in Independence. He majored in Zoology at the University of Northern Colorado, then switched to Botany in graduate school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He is presently working in the electronics field at AlliedSignal, F.M. & T. In addition to being Chapter Representative for the Kansas City Chapter, he is also the President of the Chapter.

Osage Plains Field Trips

At press time the Osage Plains Chapter had not yet set the dates for their Saturday field trips. The meeting time will be 9:00 AM and the meeting place will be the parking lot at the Henry County Courthouse. For information on the dates and destination call Marlene Miller 816-694-3581 or David Lindell 816-885-5556.



Petal Pusher

1998 Annual Meeting & Field Trips

JUNE 19-21

BETHANY, MO

Join us on our field trips in North Missouri & South Iowa. The sites in Missouri are two of the highest quality Natural Areas in the northern part of the state. We will be visiting the Wayne Helton Memorial Wildlife Area that has a mesic/wet-mesic prairie. The western prairie fringed orchid and Mead's milkweed are found there. The Chloe Lowry Marsh CA is a freshwater marsh. Growing there are: tufted loosestrife, marsh skullcap, several listed carex and Sullivant's milkweed.

The site in Iowa, Ringgold Wild Area Prairie, is a dry-mesic prairie on an upper hillside. It was a release site for a Prairie Chicken reintroduction project.

Come on up and see the prairies!

LODGING:

• Best Western I-35 Inn 1-800-528-1234
Bethany, MO, I-35 exit 92

Single (1 person, 1 Q bed) \$47.00
Double (2 persons, 2 Q beds) \$55.00

Continental breakfast included.
AAA & senior discounts

• Hub Motel 660-425-7015
Bethany, MO

Single (each additional person add \$3.00) \$31.93
Double (2 persons, 2beds) \$38.32

ITINERARY

19 June	Fri., 7:00 PM	Helton Prairie. Dr. David Ashley, Biology Dept., Missouri Western State College, will present a slide show on his research on the pollination of the western prairie fringed orchid. Dr. Ashley's colleague, Dr. John Rushin, botanist, will also be there. This will be held outside on the prairie. Dr. Ashley is bringing a portable generator. There are no facilities at the area. Please bring your own chairs. In case of rain - check at the desk of the Best Western and the Hub motels. Information will be left there.
20 June	Sat., 7:45 AM	Field Trip to Wayne Helton Memorial Wildlife Area Prairie, Harrison County. Meet at the Best Western Motel parking lot before 8:00 AM so we can leave at 8:00 AM sharp.
	Sat., 11:00 AM	Field Trip to Chloe Lowry Marsh CA, Mercer County.
	Sat., 12:30 PM	Picnic Lunch at Lake Paho CA. Leave by 1:30 PM for Iowa.
	Sat., ~ 2:30 PM	Field Trip at Ringgold Wild Area Prairie, Ringgold County, Iowa.
	Sat., ~ 5:30 PM	Dinner on your own. There will be NO Annual Banquet.
	Sat., 7:00 PM	MONPS Annual Meeting followed by the Summer Board Meeting. Bethany Community Hall in Bethany, next to the Bethany Police Office.
21 June	Sun., 8:00 AM	Optional Field Trip. Site to be decided by those present.

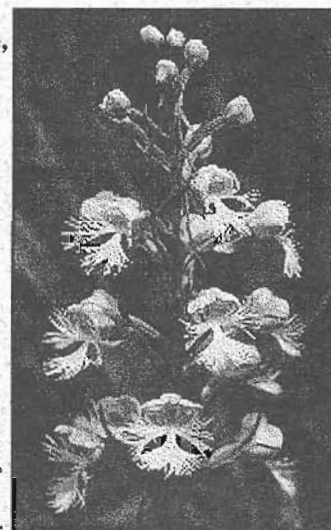


photo: jahar

Platanthera praeclara

DIRECTIONS

To Bethany: Ninety two (92) miles north of Kansas City on I-35 (Exit 92); or 22 miles south of the Iowa border on I-35.

To Helton Prairie from Bethany: Travel seven (7) miles east on Hwy 136 to County Road OO. Take OO south for one-half mile to County Road E 330 St. Turn east on E 330 St. and travel 2.5 miles to Wayne Helton Memorial Wildlife Area entrance.

To Lowry Marsh from Helton Prairie: Travel east on County Road E 330 St. for 1.5 miles to County Road CC. Take CC north for about 2.5 miles to Hwy 136. Travel east on Hwy 136 for about 16 miles to County Road FF in the town of Princeton. Take FF north for 1.4 miles and turn west on gravel road to the Airport. Travel west/north past the Lowry Memorial Airport to dead end (about 2 miles).

To Lunch (Lake Paho Conservation Area) from Lowry Marsh: From Lowry marsh return to Hwy 136 in Princeton. Travel west on Hwy 136 for 3 miles to State highway 145. Take 145 north to picnic area at lake.

To Ringgold Wild Area Prairie, Ringgold County, Iowa: Drive north from Bethany on I-35 to MO exit 114, go north to Lamoni on Hwy 69. Proceed west on J55 for 8 1/2 miles to P64 which is the first blacktop road west of Lamoni. Drive south on P64 for 1 1/2 miles. Then west on the first gravel road to the Ringgold Wildlife Area. There is a dirt road to the site we want to visit which is only passable in dry weather. Otherwise park in the lot 1/8 mile south. The P64 turnoff is marked by a duck and arrow sign. This site is just north of the Pawnee Prairie Preserve.

Nominations Sought for MONPS Awards

by Larry Morrison

In 1986, the Missouri Native Plant Society began presenting four major awards, but not every award has been given every year. These awards are expressive of the major goals of MONPS: education, research, and preservation.

The Julian A. Steyermark Award is the Society's highest award. It is awarded to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to any or all aspects of Missouri botany. The Research Award, named in memory of Arthur Christ in 1991, is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution toward furthering the knowledge of Missouri flora. The Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award is presented to an individual who, through teaching, writing, or other form, has significantly conveyed to others an appreciation and knowledge of Missouri's native flora. The Plant Steward Award is for an individual or organization for preservation of important elements of Missouri's flora through purchase, registry, and/or management practice. In 1995, the Society's Board of Directors added a fifth award, this one a Service Award, to recognize a member's service to the Missouri Native Plant Society itself.

These awards not only recognize deserving individuals, but in addition, by the publicity generated, help educate the public as well about Missouri's flora and also the Missouri Native Plant Society. Nominees for 1998 are now being accepted. Think about it and then nominate a deserving individual or individuals. Nominations should be submitted in writing to either Karen Haller (618 Spring Meadow Dr., Ballwin, MO 63011-3451) or Larry Morrison (625 Wildwood Lane, O'Fallon, IL 62269) by May 10th. If you have any questions, please call Larry at 618-624-5964.

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 meetings and field trips.

Pharm & Upjohn Allergon Division, Carthage
Ruby Ball, Springfield
Charlene Basler, Kansas City
Dorcas Burroughs, Columbia
Richard R. Clinebell, St Louis
Diane Favier, St Louis
Janis Fischer, Holts Summit
Sheila Greenberg, Columbia
Joanne Holman, Plattsburg
Sally Jezak, Holt
Sandra Kabul, Columbia
Sam Karl, Columbia
Carol Krieger, St Louis
Brian W. Loges, Sullivan
Mary Ann Mings, Columbia
DNR Weston Bend State Park, Weston
Baron Von Hershberger Vinyards, Springfield



May - June 1998

1998 Butterfly Count



HELP WANTED

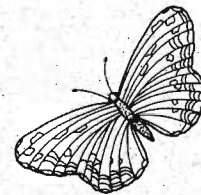
by Susanne Greenlee

We are looking for people to help census butterflies found at natural areas around the state. The information gathered will assist in assessing butterfly distributions and long-term population trends. Butterflies, due to their narrow feeding habits, are excellent indicator species to monitor the health of natural areas. Every year, over 100 volunteers across the state attended the counts, and we hope you will join us!

Don't worry if you are new at identifying butterflies. There will be coordinators at each site who are expert at identifying butterflies and will lead the group over the census route. There are jobs for catchers, recorders, identifiers using books and other tasks. There is something for everyone! Even children old enough to use a net (eight years is about the younger limit) can enjoy the count. The counts are scheduled at 15 locations state-wide.

The dates set for the counts (mostly on Saturdays) will encompass the different times that species emerge throughout the summer. The counts will be held in early May, mid to late June and late August into early September. The counts take about 2 hours to complete.

Please bring water and a snack if you plan on spending the whole day. Be prepared for a day outside; long pants, hat, sturdy shoes, insect repellent and sunscreen are recommended. Please bring a butterfly net and/or butterfly guide (especially the *Butterflies and Moths of Missouri* by R. Heitzman) if you have them. We will have some extra on hand.



1998 Butterfly Count Coordinators

Bennett Springs Savanna - Dianne Tucker 417-532-3925
Burr Oak Woods - Ron Wantoch 913-432-3847
Busch Wildlife Area - Bill Brandhorst 314-965-7269
Cuivre River State Park - Bruce Schuette 314-528-7247
McCormack Loess Hills - David Ashley, PhD 816-271-4334
Ozark Caverns State Park - Jocelyn Korsch 573-346-2500
Paintbrush, Grandfather, Friendly and Drover's Prairies
Janet Sternburg 573-751-4115 ext. 634
Powder Valley Nature Center - Doug Jackson 314-301-1500
Prairie State Park - Cyndi Evans 417-843-6711
Taberville Prairie - Ron & Cathy Huber 913-236-4043
Thousand Hills State Park - Maureen McHale 816-665-6920
Three Creeks CA - Linden Trial 573-882-9880 ext. 3229
Valley View Glade - Marshall Magner 314-961-4588
Victoria Glade - George Winkler 314-993-1652

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Petal Pusher

Missouri Native Plant Society Ballot

Please exercise your voting privilege **NOW!**

This election is to fill two (2) Board seats that will expire in the year 2001.

Donna Kennedy — Ballwin, MO (St. Louis chapter). I have a degree in marketing from UMSL and earn a living in sales and marketing. But my passion has been for green plants since I was five. That was the year I received books about trees and flowers for Christmas and my library has been growing ever since. I tote that library around the state on sales trips and plant walks.

Ralph Lindgren — Joplin, MO (Springfield chapter). Retired, widowed, 73 years old, and bossed by two poodles. Born and raised in Iron County Michigan (Upper Peninsula). Three years service in World War II (Europe). Chemical Engr. and Engr. Physics on the GI bill. Worked for 13 years in Utah and Idaho, lots of good hunting and fishing! Came to Joplin in 1963 to work for Farmers Chemical Co. (phosphate fertilizer mfg.). Got started photographing wildflowers about ten years ago and to keep costs reasonable I usually bulk load and process my own film. I like field trips, so I belong to the Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma Native Plant Societies; Missouri and Oklahoma Chapters of the Nature Conservancy and the North American Native Orchid Alliance. *Ralph is currently filling out Jody Eberly's expired term on the board.*

Bruce Schuette — Troy, MO (St. Louis chapter), present board member. I live with my wife Ann, and sons Eric and Scott, next to Cuivre River State Park. Since graduating from the University of Missouri - Columbia in 1977 with a BS in wildlife management I have worked at Cuivre River as the Park Naturalist. As a Park Naturalist my job is twofold. One part is presenting a variety of nature related programs, interpreting the flora and fauna of the park to a vast array of visitors. The second part involves research and management of the park's natural resources, including vegetation sampling, exotic species control, conducting prescribed burns and natural landscape restorations. Protecting, restoring and increasing awareness and appreciation of our native flora is of great importance to me. When not around the park, our family can most likely be found traveling to other state and national parks, national wildlife refuges and similar destinations looking for birds, wildflowers and about anything else wild.

Instructions:

Vote for no more than two out of the three candidates for Board member. You may vote for only one if you wish. Single memberships should use the left hand column only. Family/joint memberships may use both columns.

1.) Please mark your ballot – remove from *Petal Pusher* – fold page into thirds along dotted lines with ballot info on the inside – and Sue Hollis' address on the outside;

2.) Tape the folded ballot at the top – do **not** use staples – (see marked locations on the ballot);

3.) Add 1st class stamp;

4.) Place in mail box;

5.) **Mail by 20 May 1998.**

Vote for no more than two (2)

1st member

Donna Kennedy

Ralph Lindgren

Bruce Schuette

Vote for no more than two (2)

2nd family/joint member

Donna Kennedy

Ralph Lindgren

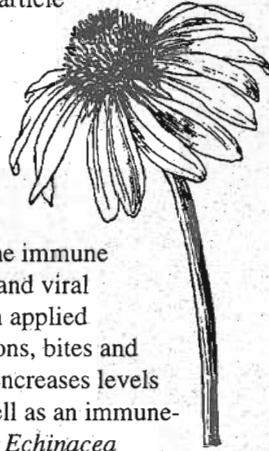
Bruce Schuette

Tidbits

PLANTS SCORE IN NATURAL HEALTH SCENE

Going through a recent issue of "Natural Health Shopper," picked up in a health food store, is practically like reading a botany manual, minus the keys. Several items drew attention.

Echinacea was featured as "herb of the month," complete with a picture of the flowering plant. The article states that *Echinacea* is the vitamin C of American herbs. Everybody seems to be taking the material and practically all "flu-season" remedies contain the plant. Derived from the roots and other parts of the purple coneflower (*E. purpurea* and *E. angustifolia*), plants native to North America, *Echinacea* is claimed to boost the immune system, stop colds and flu, fight bacterial and viral infections when taken internally and when applied externally to speed healing of cuts, abrasions, bites and stings. Researchers claim that *Echinacea* increases levels of the antiviral substance interferon, as well as an immune-related blood protein known as properdin. *Echinacea* supposedly prompts the thymus, bone marrow and spleen to develop more of their various immune cells. Studies have identified immune-boosting and anti-inflammatory chemicals called polysaccharides. These compounds are found in both the root and above-ground parts of the plant. In addition, a recent study claimed *Echinacea* contains a number of antioxidant compounds, which suggests that *Echinacea* extracts may protect the skin from sunlight-induced damage. Thus herbal companies may soon be adding *Echinacea* to a whole new set of products such as skin creams, moisturizers and sun blocks. Another ad touts "Chewable *Sambucus*," a good-tasting anti-cold and flu supplement, containing elderberry extract. The researcher who comes up with a marketable use for extract of bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*) will be blessed with an unlimited supply of raw material.



Caution: MONPS cannot confirm or deny any claims about any plant if used for medicinal or nutritional purposes. Many plants/herbs contain chemical compounds that are toxic to humans.

MORE PLANT REMEDIES

Another issue of the "Natural Health Shopper" headlines slippery elm (*Ulmus fulva*, aka *U. rubra*) as another "herb of the month." The article claims that slippery elm, sold as lozenges, powders, tablets or extracts made from the mucilage

of the inner bark, soothes scratchy, raw, sore throats and mouth irritations. It is also claimed that the material can be used externally for minor skin injuries and rashes. For internal use, a tablespoon of dried herb is mixed with equal amount of sugar and dissolved in hot water. A tablespoon of sugar would probably make anything palatable!

See Caution above.

FAMILY QUIZ

Some time ago, Tidbits ran an item concerning the plant genus with most species in the United States. The surprising answer (at least to some people) was *Penstemon*. Recently the editors came across information (source will not be revealed in event report is incorrect) describing the largest plant family in the world, with over 20,000 species. The answer is not Asteraceae and is printed backward at end of this sentence, to discourage peekers: Eaecadihcro.

THREATENED NATURAL COMMUNITIES: PRAIRIES

(1) Illinois Prairies: Only 7/100ths of 1% of relatively undisturbed Illinois natural areas remain (*The Harbinger*, October 1997; quarterly newsletter of the Illinois Native Plant Society).

(2) Missouri Prairies: Square miles of prairie (pre-Columbian) \approx 23,454. Square miles of prairie in 1996 = 21.97, i.e., \approx 9/100ths of 1% of relatively undisturbed, natural habitat.

(MDC web page: <http://www.state.mo.us/conservation/html>)



Volunteer/Bee Alert!

by Susanne Greenlee

If you are interested in entomology, field research and are not allergic to bee stings – this message may be for you. The Nature Conservancy, Missouri Chapter, needs help to perform eight (8) scheduled bee collection activities during the summer. Collection results are to be shipped to the field office. The samplings will take place at the Wa'Kon-Ta Prairie and at the Chilton Creek TNC preserves. If you are interested in helping out, please call Suzanne Greenlee at 314-968-1105.

INFORMATION ON JOINING MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SOCIETY DUES
(Chapter dues additional)

Student \$5.00
Regular \$9.00
Contributing \$20.00
Life \$200.00

CHAPTER DUES
Columbia \$6.00
Jefferson City \$5.00
Kansas City \$5.00
Osage Plains00
St. Louis \$5.00
Springfield00

(Circle all that apply)

Make check payable to: Missouri Native Plant Society
Mail to: Jack H. Harris, Treasurer
9708 Green Park Road, St. Louis, MO 63123-7133

Name _____
Street _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____
e-mail _____

- Election Ballot
- Award Nominations
- Annual Meeting & Summer Field Trips

Missouri Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 20073
St. Louis, MO 63144-0073

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