

Missouri Native Plant Society

September

- 1** Tue., 7:00 PM **Developing the Whitmire Wildflower Garden** presented by Scott Woodbury, Shaw Arboretum. Chapter meeting at Runge Nature Center.
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- 11-13** Fri.-Sun. **Fall Field Trips & Board Meeting.** See page 3.
Kirksville
-
- 14** Mon., 7:00 PM **Chapter Meeting.** Tentative topic: Scenic Roads. Held at Midwest Science Center, 4200 New Haven Rd.
Columbia
-
- 14** Mon., 6:00 PM **Carry-in Dinner & Meeting** at Marlene Miller's farm. The meeting will begin at approximately 7:00 PM.
Clinton
-
- 16** Wed., 7:00 PM **Chapter Meeting** at the Loose Park Garden Center, 52nd and Wornall. We'll have a plant & seed exchange. Program to be announced.
Kansas City
-
- 19** Sat. 9:00 AM **Wildflower Walk at Foxglove Conservation Area** in Ray Co. We hope to see the rare pink false foxglove, *Agalinis auriculata* (formerly *Gerardia auriculata*) and explore in general. Meet at the park & ride lot in Liberty, I-35 & Barry Road/Hwy 152 exit. Bring sack lunch & water. Call Dan Rice for details 816-461-0206.
Kansas City
-
- 23** Wed., 7:30 **Missouri's Prairie Resource** presented by Karen Kramer, Natural Areas Coordinator, Mo. Dept. of Conservation. Chapter meeting at the Mo. Botanical Garden, Ridgway Center.
St. Louis

October

- 1** **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. Disk will be returned. Or send e-mail to: pharris@stlnet.com
-
- 6** Tue., 7:00 PM **Collecting, Cleaning, Storing Seeds of Native Plants** presented by Ann Wakeman, Rockpost Nursery. Monthly meeting held at Runge Nature Center.
Jefferson City
-
- 9-10** Fri.-Sat. **45th Annual Systematics Symposium.** Theme: Our Unknown Planet: Recent Discoveries and the Future. Missouri Botanical Garden. For information: P. Mick Richardson, Tel. 314-577-5176; Fax 314-577-0820; E-mail richards@mobot.org
St. Louis
Symposium registration form at: <http://www.mobot.org/mobot/symposium/>
-
- 10** Sat., 10:00 AM **Field Trip to Missouri Wildflowers Nursery, Brazito, MO.** Hosted by Merv Wallace, owner. Follow-up of 6 October program. Bring a sack lunch. Janet Racen, 573-374-0372.
Jefferson City
-

- 12** Mon., 7:00 PM
Columbia **Chapter Meeting.** Tentative topic: Big Muddy NF&WR. Held at Midwest Science Center, 4200 New Haven Rd.
- 17 & 31** Sat., 9:30 AM
St. Louis **Field Trip to Creve Coeur Memorial Park,** led by Jim Bogler. This will be the last chance to see the park before the election to decide its fate. We'll walk through the old growth area where the proposed highway will be built. Meet at the parking lot near Dripping Springs.
- 28** Wed., 7:00 PM
St. Louis **Annual Show & Tell.** Bring 10 of your favorite slides of interesting places & plants you saw this year. Chapter meeting at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Center.
- November**
- 3** Tue., 7:00 PM
Jefferson City **Insects and the Plants They Like** presented by Father Jim Sullivan. Chapter meeting at Runge Nature Center.
- 4-6** Wed.-Fri
Chicago **2nd Midwest Rare Plant Conference** and Task Force Meeting in cooperation with the Center for Plant Conservation at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL. For information: Kayri Havens, Chicago Botanic Garden, 847-835-8378 or email khavens@mes.net

1998 Annual Meeting & Awards

The Annual Meeting was held on June 20, 1998 at the Bethany Community Hall in Bethany, MO prior to the quarterly board meeting.

Three of the five MONPS awards were given this year.

Don Kurz – Jefferson City Chapter, received the Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award, for conveying to others a knowledge and appreciation of an important segment of Missouri's flora through the book *Shrubs and Woody Vines of Missouri*.

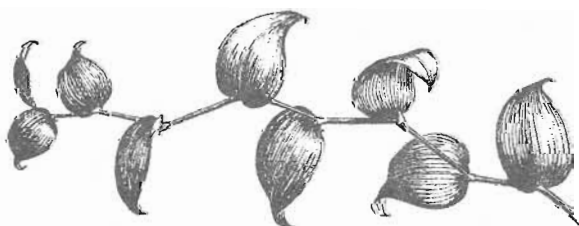
Paul Nelson – Bonnots Mill, Mo., received the Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award, for conveying to others a knowledge and appreciation of an important segment of Missouri's flora through the book *Shrubs and Woody Vines of Missouri*.

Ken McCarty – Jefferson City, received the Arthur Christ Research Award, for contributions to the conservation of the natural biodiversity of Missouri.

James Trager – St. Louis Chapter, received the Plant Stewardship Award, for work at Shaw Arboretum which exposes the public to the concepts of ecological restoration, habitat diversity, and the need for native plant protection.

ELECTION RESULTS

President Morrison thanked the Nomination and Ballot committees and then announced the results of the election: Ralph Lindgren and Bruce Schuette were reelected.



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.

Dave & Carol Alburty, Drexel
Charles D. Connor, St Louis
Cindy Crecelius, St Charles
Janine Frechette, Merriam, KS
Diane Holcomb, Holden
Jim & Andrea Kennedy, Portland
Nancy Moenster, Salem
Jay Raveill, Warrensburg
Richard & Barbara Simonson, Kirkwood

New On the Shelf!!!

MISSOURI WILDFLOWERS,
5th Edition, by Edgar Denison, 1998.
Missouri Department of Conservation.
Size: 6" x 9" x 276 pp. Paper @ \$14.00.

There is no better praise?

Twenty-five years of continued public demand has led to a new, re-organized 5th edition of this time tested volume. Photos of 305 flowering plants, now adjacent to their friendly narratives; augmented by 163 "text only" descriptions of closely related plants; make this the best value and handiest field manual for beginners and casual wildflower watchers anywhere on the book shelves. Edgar Denison's illustrations are retained – merely moved to new locations. There are many new photos and the nomenclature (plant names) has been brought into concert with the latest botanical authority. Carol Davit, Editor; Tim Smith, Technical Editor; and Tracy Ritter, Designer, collaborated to continue the fine tradition of making *Missouri Wildflowers* a pleasant pastime for everyone.



1998 Fall Meeting & Field Trip


SEPTEMBER 11-13

KIRKSVILLE, MO

All members & friends of native plants are invited to participate in our second visit this year to the glaciated plains region of the State. We are shifting our focus to the east – in the vicinity of Kirksville. If you have seen one – you have **not** seen them all – in this case.

In the morning, we will be going to Morris Prairie, a private, dry-mesic prairie with good diversity. In September, we should see a good assortment of composites, grasses, maybe gentians and ladies' tresses, possibly the state-listed *Agalinis auriculata*, which has been recorded from the site. Later at Rebel's Cove, we may visit remnant freshwater marshes and forested ravines along the Chariton River.

ITINERARY

- 11 Sept. Fri., 7:00 PM  **Friday evening program on *Viola Pedata*** presented by Dr. Steve Carrol, Science Division, Truman University. Held at Truman University, Science Hall, Room 220. Science Hall is located at the corner of Franklin (Bus. 63) and Patterson Streets. Parking in front of the Hall. From the south, take Bus. 63 which becomes Franklin in town. The university is south of the town square.
- 12 Sept. Sat., 8:00 AM **Field Trip to Morris Prairie.** Meet at the Super 8 parking lot to carpool about 35 mi. northwest to Morris Prairie near the Sullivan/Putnam Co. line. See directions below.
- Sat., 11:00 AM **Lunch** (possibilities for lunch at Unionville).
- Sat., 1:00 PM-4:00 PM **Field Trip at Rebel's Cove Conservation Area**, (ca. 30 mi. east-northeast of Morris Prairie) in Putnam and Schuyler counties.
- Sat. **Dinner** on your own in Kirksville.
- Sat., 7:00 PM **MONPS Fall Board Meeting.** Held at Truman University, Science Hall, Room 220. See directions above for Friday evening. All MONPS members and friends are invited to attend.
- 13 Sept. Sun. **Optional field trip possibilities:** Thousand Hills State Park, Sugar Creek CA.

LODGING:

- Super 8 660-665-8826 or 1-800-800-8000
1101 Country Club Dr., on S 63 Hwy as you enter Kirksville.
 - 1 person, 1 bed \$45.98
 - 2 persons, 2 beds \$54.98
 - 4 persons, 2 beds \$60.98

Includes Superstart Breakfast. Ask for the 10% MONPS discount. All rates before discount & tax.

- Traveler Hotel 660-665-5191
301 W. Washington. From S 63 Hwy, turn left on Jefferson to Main, turn right on Main & go 3 blocks.
 - 1 person, 1 bed \$50.95
 - 2 persons, 1 bed \$55.95

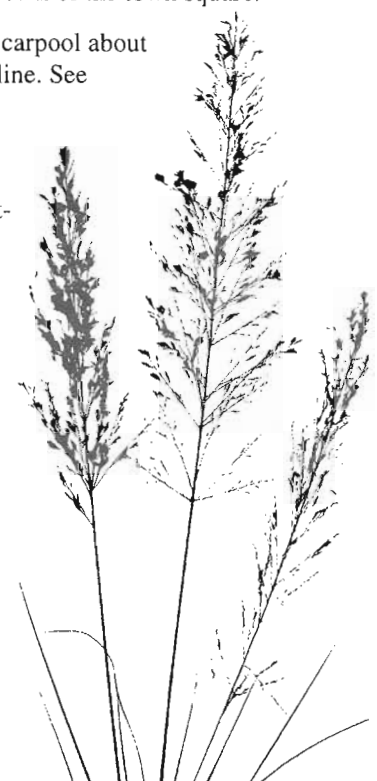
Includes breakfast. All rates before tax. No smoking or alcohol allowed on premises.

- Days Inn 660-665-8244
Hwy 63, Kirksville
 - 1 person \$45.00 + tax
 - 2 persons \$50.00 + tax

Discounted rate for MONPS, but you must ask for it.

CAMPING:

- Eagle Lodge Campgrounds 660-332-4480
Trailer sites, laundry, hot showers.



DIRECTIONS

To Morris Prairie: From Kirksville, go west on Hwy 6 ca. 21 mi. to Hwy 129. Turn north onto Hwy 129 and go north ca. 11 mi. to Hwy F. Turn left (northwest) onto Hwy F and go northwest ca. 1.0 mi. to gravel private drive on left. Go due west on gravel drive ca. 1/2 mi., then south ca. 1/4 mi. to Morris's house. The Morris's house, and two outbuildings are in the southeast quarter of Section 32, in Putnam Co. We'll walk south ca. 1/4 mi into Sullivan Co. to the prairie.

To Rebel's Cove: From Morris Prairie, go back to Hwy 129, go north to Hwy 136. Go east on Hwy 136 to Livonia. At Livonia, turn north on Hwy N. Stay on Hwy N. Approximately 3.5 mi. north of intersection with Hwy Z, turn right from Hwy N onto gravel road going southeast and then east to Department parking area in Section 33. That is the northernmost parking lot at Rebel's Cove C.A. and is on the west side of the Chariton River.

Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights June 20, 1998

President Larry Morrison, 14 board members and 4 guests met at the Bethany Community Hall in Bethany, MO.

Treasurer's Report: Jack Harris reported a balance of \$10,482.85. Current membership stands at 315 paid-up members. We now have investments in two rotating CDs.

Committee Reports

Membership: Pat Grace reported that there were 17 responses from the article on our badge program that Marlene Miller sent to *Earth Savers*.

Petal Pusher: Pat Harris reported the MONPS web page address will be listed on the back page of the *Petal Pusher*.

Publicity: Nels Holmberg reported that the local press and radio station taped an interview with him about the MONPS weekend.

Old Business

Flora of Missouri Atlas: Larry Morrison reported that Paul Redfearn said that they are hoping to publish the *Atlas* this summer.

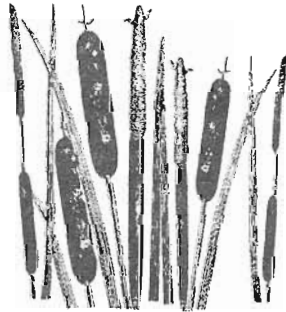
Honorariums: It was moved, seconded & carried (MSC) to offer \$40.00 to future speakers to our quarterly meetings.

T-shirt Sales: The only sizes still in stock are: large, extra-large and extra, extra-large.

Chapter News

Hawthorn Chapter — Meetings:

In May, Ethel Hickey gave a presentation on the many uses of cattails. Her talk included history, plant anatomy, recipes, and craft ideas. She shared cattail-o soup



and we made braided bracelets and cattail dolls. In June, Joann Whitley showed the Columbia Greenbelt Coalition slide show.

Field trips: In May, Ann Wakeman led us on a walk at Paris Fork. Participants saw three species of orchids in bloom. In June, the Chapter was invited to Laura and Paul Ellifrit's home for a carry-in dinner and to view their constructed wetland, wooded ravines, prairie areas, and Cedar Creek. Participants agreed that Laura and Paul have the most beautiful stand of *Alisma* they have ever seen.

Jefferson City — Our May meeting was a rewarding, beautiful field trip to Jean Stanford's "Wild Fields," an inspiring example of native plant settings. Potluck lunch finished a perfect day. June was a first-time Progressive Dinner hosted by Ronda & Mark Mayhan, Carol & Larry Young, Becky & Bill Washburn. Each menu was imaginative; the gardens are uniquely individualistic incorporating native plants with fruits, vegetables and garden plants. July found the Chapter at the unusual garden of Linda and Ed Hickman. Huge boulders empty water into three hillside pools. A curved

wisteria arbor edges the large koi pool. Herbs, vegetables, roses and native plants fill numerous gardens.

Kansas City — We had a booth at the Powell Garden's Springfest in May. Hundreds of Merv Wallace's plants were sold and lots of information was conveyed to festival patrons.

Field trips: In mid-May, we spent the day exploring a savanna at Swope Park (a site where the yellow lady's slipper orchid has been spotted in the past), Blue River Glades (a State Natural Area), a remnant prairie at Sager Woods Park, and a remnant prairie at the Jerry Smith Farm. The Swope Park savanna, Sager Woods prairie, and Jerry Smith Farm prairie are all waiting for restoration work to begin. The Blue River Glades are in the process of being restored. On May 29, members gathered at Dan's home for peppermint tea and a look around the gardens. The weather cooperated this year, and no cars went careening through the front yard before the gathering (like one did last year!). In June, Larry Rizzo was our guide to Dorsett Hill Prairie and one private prairie. We found many species, but not our primary quarry – Mead's milkweed. One interesting sighting was a clump of orange butterfly milkweed with a clump of yellow butterfly milkweed next to it!

Osage Plains — Meetings: In May, we had a slide show of our last field trip. We also had instructions on plant identification. A display on grafting and establishing Bermuda grass was set up in the back of the room. In June, the program was presented by Norman Murray, Mo. Department of Conservation Natural History biologist, for the surrounding counties. He spoke on attracting and feeding birds, bird houses, bat houses, and how to make a fish pond in your back yard.

Field trips: The May 2nd trip was to Chapel View Prairie (the unfenced part on the west side) and it was covered with flowers in bloom. Dominating the scene were many thousands of wood betony plants. Other plants included blue bird's foot violet, yellow star grass, pink shooting star, blue-eyed grass, buttercups, Indian paint brush, wild hyacinth, prairie ragwort, spring beauty, false garlic, wild strawberry, violet wood sorrel, cream colored baptisia, nanny berry, arrow-leaved violets, cinquefoil and corn salad. Carrol Eaglesfield commented that it was the most beautiful prairie he had ever seen. The May 16th trip was to the farm of one of our members and was a very pink day with many plants of pink prairie phlox in view. Other plants included pale beard tongue, Indian paint brush, wood betony, red clover, blue-eyed grass, hoary puccoon, corn salad, prairie ragwort, spiderwort, cream baptisia, wild hyacinth, false toadflax, poison hemlock, ox-eye daisy, black locust, cinquefoil, golden alexanders, gramma grass and big bluestem.



A plant seen often in surrounding counties, but seen by us in Henry County for the first time is a lily that goes by the common name of bunch flower. They are 3-4 feet tall with cream colored flowers. There are about 100 plants on the north side of Hwy 52 between Clinton and Lewis Station.

Publications of Interest

GRASSES OF MISSOURI

The University of Missouri Press has recently published a revised edition of Clair Kucera's well-known *Grasses of Missouri* (ISBN #0-8262-1164-X; \$34.95, paperback). This useful manual has been extensively updated to include not only changes in species taxonomy and additions to the flora since the last edition, but also to reflect the newer classification of tribes and subfamilies that is currently in use by agrostologists. This is the most up-to-date reference available for the identification of Missouri's approximately 275 grass species and the only place presently to find illustrations of all these plants. It is also a good introduction to working with one of Missouri's largest and most challenging plant families.



George Yatskievych

NEW CHECKLIST

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has issued the 1998 edition of what used to be called the "Rare and Endangered Species Checklist" for the state. This latest publication displays the results of a recently adopted classification system.

Each designated species of each taxonomic group, e.g., plants, fish, mammals, fungi, etc., has been appraised and assigned new ratings reflecting a local and a national species-risk assessment. And the federal system status, which has also been recently modified, is also shown in the tables.

Title: "**Missouri Species of Conservation Concern Checklist - June 1998;**" 29 pages; size 8.5 x 11 inches. For more information or a copy, write or call: Endangered Species Coordinator, MDC, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO, 65102-0180; 573-751-4115.

Follow the Herd— To Prairie Day!

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19, 1998**

10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

SHAW ARBORETUM — GRAY SUMMIT, MO

Shaw Arboretum of the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Missouri Department of Conservation will again be co-sponsoring a day on the prairie. This free event will be held in and around the Arboretum's beautiful 75-acre recreated tall grass prairie. A variety of demonstrations and activities will portray our prairie heritage.

Take a naturalist led hike through the prairie, see the live bison, listen to old time music, a story teller, or watch demonstrations by spinners, weavers, and other crafts people. Youngsters can enjoy the games their frontier ancestors played. Living history characters will reenact the lives of the early prairie inhabitants, and an archeologist and flint knapper will display and interpret artifacts associated with prairie life. Representatives from three native plant nurseries will be selling wildflower seeds and plants, and answering questions about growing prairie plants. Other booths will have reptiles, amphibians, insects, and songbirds. Food and beverages will be for sale, including buffalo burgers, homemade baked goods, old fashioned root beer and kettle corn.

Shaw Arboretum is located a short distance south of Interstate Highway 44 at the Gray Summit exit. Watch for signs to the designated parking area. Please car pool if you can. A voluntary donation per vehicle for parking will be appreciated to help defray expenses. For more information call 451-3512.

The St. Louis Chapter of MONPS will have a booth at Prairie Day. We will be selling T-shirts, bandannas and pins. Come and talk to droves of people about prairie plants and other native plants. If you want to help staff the booth even for an hour or so, call Mary Smidt, (314) 227-6127.



THE KINGDOMS OF LIFE: A VIEW FROM THE TOP-OR-THE BOTTOM?

The challenge for most Native Plant Society members engaged in learning to associate certain names/categories with the correct specific plant operates at the genus, species, subspecies, variety, et al level. This book presents a comprehensive, modern system of sorting all living biota into their proper pigeon holes starting from the top down – or the trunk (bottom) up – of the classic family tree, depending on your image of organism relationships over time. The categories of Superkingdom, Kingdom, Subkingdom, Division, and Phylum are the subjects here.

Kingdom Plantae is covered in 48 pages, Kingdom Fungi – 24 pages, Kingdom Animalia – 142, Kingdom Bacteria – 68, and Kingdom Protoctista – 96.

Stephen Jay Gould, in the Forward notes: "Taxonomies are reflections of human thought; they express our most fundamental concepts about the objects in our universe."

Five Kingdoms: An Illustrated Guide to the Phyla of Life on Earth, 3rd Edition, 1998; Lynn Margulis and Karlene V. Schwartz. Size: 8" x 9" x 520 pp. W. H. Freeman & Co., paper @ \$29.95.

[Ed. note: Lynn Margulis is scheduled to speak at the Systematics Symposium – see Calendar page.]

TIME SAVER FOR MO PRAIRIE ORCHID ENTHUSIASTS

Bill Summers, author of the book *Missouri Orchids*, (112 pages, Missouri Department of Conservation, 1996) has sorted through the latest material and written a summary update focusing solely on "prairie orchids of Missouri." The article appears in *The Missouri Prairie Journal*, Summer 1998, Volume 19, Number 3. The Missouri Prairie Foundation, P.O. Box 200, Columbia, MO, 65205.

Petal Pusher

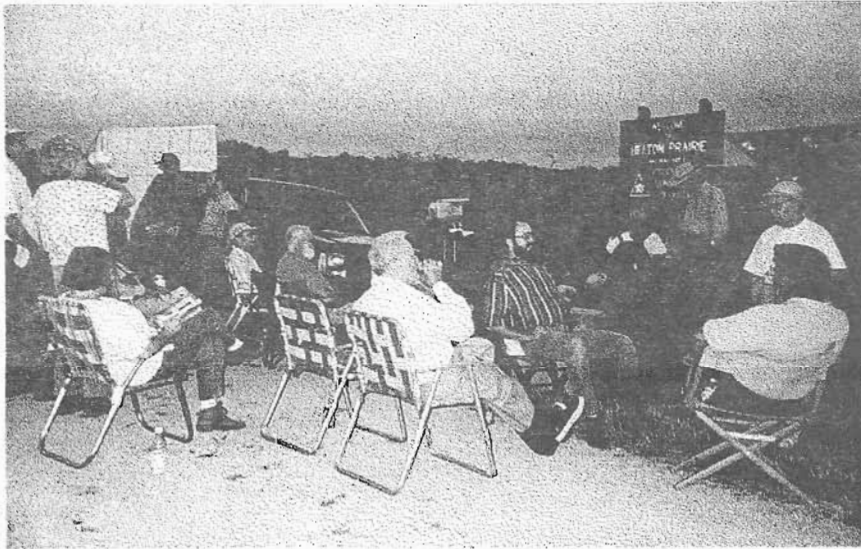
MONPS Field Trip 19-20 June 1998

by Jack H. Harris

A PRAIRIE EVENING SORTIE!

(1) Dateline: Evening of 19 June 1998; ≈ 7 PM >>>late @ Wayne Helton Prairie Natural Area, w-a-y o-u-t in north Missouri.

Pursuant to the initiatives of Sue Hollis (MONPS Vice-president), being ably aided and abetted by Dr. David Ashley and Dr. John Rushin (Biology Dept., Missouri Western State College, St. Joseph, MO); - who collaborated to produce, direct, and present this highly unusual event. The Missouri Native Plant Society sponsored its first on site, tall grass prairie, two-night, field slide show (botany/ecology), and deep black (it gets REAL dark out there!), entomological attraction orientation and associated eclectic invertebrate taste test demonstration.



Waiting for dark at Helton Prairie Photo by Nancy Morrison

Twenty-three (23) members and friends (two from Iowa) arrived at the very rare remnant (a Missouri Natural Area) of an undisturbed tall grass prairie in time to make brief excursions for personal observations of an amazing array of wildflowers and native plants in very dense association. Immediately following a prairie sunset, accompanied by the "tune-up" session of the insect symphony, Dr. John Rushin presented a tall grass prairie wildflower slide show featuring some of the most showy members of the adjacent real estate and similar nearby habitats. Next on the agenda was a brief synopsis of research on pollination of the federally listed *Platanthera praeclara* (western prairie fringed orchid), also a local resident, by Dr. David Ashley. Attributes of the processes of pollen production of the orchid and the role of the pollinating moths were described and illustrated (color slides). The screen, projector, audience seating and podium were all accommodated by Harrison County road (gravel) E 315 St., - which avoided any impact on the prairie flora. There was one interruption however.

Its approach was announced with highbeam headlights

flashing the advance warning. A red pick-up truck was bearing down on the gravel road classroom from the rear. In an unrehearsed, unspoken, military like drill, the audience and presenters moved all chairs, the projector, the screen, et al, to one side; and the pick-up passed by without stopping (amazing what coordinated, group actions the survival instinct can produce). All equipment was then replaced and the program resumed to its normal conclusion (Later there were many speculations of what the driver would tell the local inhabitants about the extra(?)-terrestrial visitors that were seen that evening out on the otherwise dark unpopulated prairie.)

Following the technical discussion and presentation, Dr. Ashley then led the audience to the insect night/collection demonstration sites (previously set up) on the edge of the prairie.* As expected on a warm summer night, the lighted screens and traps attracted an enormous quantity and variety of sizes and kinds of insects, et al. The numbers of invertebrate species likely surpassed the variety of species of prairie flora. All of which in turn attracted the keen attention, curiosity and appreciation of many of the observers. One member, caught up in the enthusiasm of the moment, actually taste tested one insect species that was described as a delicacy in certain parts of the world. The judgement was that its palatability left something to be desired. However the general curiosity continued until an unusually late hour - so we hear.

* = All technical equipment, power sources and expertise provided by Drs. Ashley and Rushin; the audience brought their own seating hardware.

(2) Dateline: 20 June 1998, Bethany, MO. Tim Smith, MONPS Field Trip Coordinator, organized and led the following days activities.

(2.1) ≈ 8:30 - 10:00 AM @ Wayne Helton Prairie Natural Area, a rare, 30 acre, high quality, tall grass prairie remnant w-a-y o-u-t north in Harrison County, MO. Twenty-one members and friends elected to participate in the return trip to Helton Prairie Natural Area for a closer, daylight look at the variety and associations of what the tall grass prairie had to offer. An abbreviated, sample list of species blooming at the time would include the following: *Platanthera praeclara* (western prairie fringed orchid), *Erigeron strigosus* (daisy fleabane), *Baptisia alba* (white wild indigo), *Ceanothus americanus* (New Jersey tea), *Melanthium virginicum* (bunchflower), *Tripsacum dactyloides* (eastern gama grass), *Potentilla arguta* (prairie cinquefoil), *Lilium michiganense* (Michigan lily), *Lysimachia ciliata* (fringed loosestrife), and *Coreopsis palmata* (finger coreopsis).

(2.2) ≈ 10:30 - 12:30 PM @ Chloe Lowry Marsh Natural Area, Mercer County, MO. The area comprises 40 acres of now very rare, freshwater prairie marsh and 15 acres of wet-mesic prairie in the glaciated plains of northern MO. Some of the more unusual plants in bloom were *Scutellaria galericulata* (marsh skullcap), *Stachys pilosa v. arenicola* (marsh betony), *Tradescantia ohiensis* (spiderwort), *Lythrum*

alatum v. *alatum* (winged loosestrife), *Asclepias sullivantii* (prairie milkweed), and several species of sedges. Several distinctive large mounds in the marsh bottomland drew the curiosity of the members. Dr. James Trager explained that the mounds were the residences of *Formica montana* (a prairie ant species) whose habitat is conservatively restricted to mesic/wet-mesic prairie remnants. A small puncture in one ant-hill surface resulted in an instant defensive swarming out of the small rupture and made clear the intentions of the colony to defend its integrity against all intruders. There were no challengers.

(2.3) ≈ 12:30 – 2:30 travel time plus lunch @ picnic area on the cool/breezy shores of Lake Pahoe Conservation Area.

(2.4) ≈ 3:00 – 4:30 PM @ Ringgold Wild Area Prairie, Ringgold County, Iowa. Members of the Iowa Native Plant Society welcomed the Missouri contingent and guided us to the Wild Area Prairie. A few of the prairie plant species noted were *Helianthemum bicknellii* (rockrose), *Echinacea pallida* (pale purple cone flower), and *Asclepias tuberosus* (butterfly weed).

Commensurate with the ambience (i.e., typical tall grass prairie), other residents noted while exploring the wild area was *Diadophis punctatus arnyi* (prairie ringnecked snake), *Spiza americana* (dickcissel), and *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (bobolink).

On behalf of MONPS and the field trip participants, President Larry Morrison expressed sincere appreciation to the Iowa Native Plant Society and the Iowa land owners (who permitted us access to the prairie and assisted with transportation) for their gracious hospitality and for inviting MONPS to share the sights and sounds of a rare, remnant, tall grass prairie in southern Iowa.



Tidbits

HIGHWAY BOTANIZING

A MONPS member tells of an early July trip on I-64 eastward across southern Illinois and Indiana. In Illinois, only narrow strips were mowed on medians and shoulders leaving wide swaths of wildflowers. Tentatively listed @ 65 mph were approximately 30 flowering species, the most prominent being rose pink—mainly pink, but some white form (*Sabatia angularis*) and rose mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*). Some other plants seen were Queen Anne’s lace (*Daucus carota*), butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), trumpet creeper (*Campsis radicans*), ironweed (*Vernonia* sp.), black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*). Alas, upon entering Indiana, the entire roadside was being mowed, sometimes down to bare earth and often as far as 50 yards from the pavement. The sterile landscape was in sharp contrast to the pleasant Illinois scenes. To make matters even worse, the mowing was being done by a contract firm, so this waste of taxpayer money could be stopped with no loss of state highway worker jobs! An additional note to our Illinois members who may wish to advise their highway department: one patch of purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) was seen near milepost 83.

ODE TO LEMNA

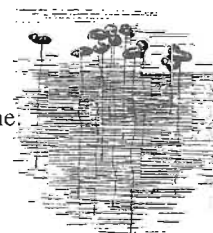
From the purple martin folks at Griggsville, Illinois, via their Nature Society News’ July 1998 issue, comes Ann Sherwood’s poem dedicated to the lowly duckweed:

THE LEMNAS (Duckweed, et al.)

Like verdant vesture deflecting sheen
Is the duckweed in the pond-side scene:
Surface striders tread its “nap,”
and many the mayflies from it, flap.

It’s “scum” to pondside-cabin owner,
“— and should be skimmed.” He is not condoner.
To bathing guests, it brings a scowl,
But it’s beaked in bulk by waterfowl.

For pond-plashers maybe it’s dilemma...
But I’ll speak a word for the stemless *Lemna*.



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

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 _____

(Circle all that apply)

- Annual Awards Announced
- Election Results
- Fall Meeting & Field Trips

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

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Missouri Native Plant Society Officers and Board Members

PRESIDENT

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