



Missouri Native Plant Society

March

- 7** Tue., 7:00 PM
Jefferson City **Fruits and Nuts from Native Missouri Trees and Shrubs**, presented by Andy Thomas, Research Associate in Horticulture, Univ. of MO SW. Andy will also discuss research being done at the Center in Mt. Vernon, MO. Chapter meeting at Runge Nature Center.
- 13** Mon., 7:00 PM
Columbia **ID of Current and Potential Exotic Weed Pests**, presented by Dana DeWeese, USDA, APHIS, PPQ (Plant Protection and Quarantine). Chapter meeting held at Midwest Science Center, 4200 New Haven Rd.
- 15** Wed., 7:00 PM
Kansas City **Chapter Meeting** at Loose Park Garden Center, 52nd and Wornall. Program to be announced.
- 25** Sat., 8:30 AM
Kansas City **Field Trip to Knob Noster State Park**. Meet at the Walmart on Hwy 50 in Raytown. Bring sack lunch and water. Contact Dan Rice 816-461-0206 for more info.
- 22** Wed., 7:30 PM
St. Louis **Orchids and Bees of Brazil...an Earthwatch experience**, presented by Karen Haller. Chapter meeting at Missouri Botanical Garden, Ridgway Building.

April

- 1** **Due date for material for May-June *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
- 2** Sun., 10:00 AM
St. Louis **Field Trip to Denby Prairie**, near Carlinville, IL, led by Larry Morrison to look for prairie trout lily (*Erythronium mesochoreum*). Meet at Missouri Botanical Garden Ridgway Building east parking lot. Bring lunch & water. Optional light supper at the Morrison's afterwards.
- 4** Tue., 7:00 PM
Jefferson City **Apiculture**, presented by Ray Nabors, bee specialist and api-culturist from Pemiscot County Missouri University Extension. Chapter meeting at Runge Nature Center.
- 14-16** Fri.-Sun. **Spring Board Meeting & Field Trip**. See pages 3 for details.
- 22** Sat., 9:00 AM
Kansas City **Field Trip to White Aloe Creek Natural Area**. Meet at the picnic area behind the police station in Parkville. Bring water and sack lunch. Contact Dan Rice 816-461-0206 for info.
- 26** Wed., 7:30 PM
St. Louis **Trailside Wildflowers of the Sawtooth Wilderness Area**, presented by Bill Summers. Chapter meeting held at Powder Valley Nature Center. (**Note:** This is a one time change of meeting place.)
- 30** Sun., 9:30 AM
St. Louis **Field Trip to Washington University Tyson Research Center**, led by Jane Walker. Optional visit to the Quarry to see Jane's glade project. I-44, Antire/Beaumont exit. Meet at the Tyson gate. Bring lunch & water.

MONPS Founder Passes Away

by George Yatskievych

After a long fight with cancer, J. E. "John" Wylie passed away at the age of 74 on 22 January. Most MONPS members may not know it, but John was directly responsible for the founding of our society. John went to work for the Missouri Department of Conservation in 1950 following college at the University of Missouri-Columbia and Oregon State University, and a tour of duty in the Merchant Marine during World War II. When voters approved the conservation sales tax in 1976, one of the Department's promises was to create a Natural History Section that would work on endangered species and other nongame resources of Missouri. The job of leading this new branch of MDC fell to John, who was promoted from his former life as a forester.

As the chief of Natural History, John Wylie thought up and made happen many of the things that most MONPS members appreciate most dearly about the agency's function, including the creation of regional nature centers, theme days like Prairie Day, Day in the Woods, etc., and the creation of the Natural Areas system. John "invented" the section, hiring the first Department botanist, ornithologist, herpetologist, and others. The state Natural Features Inventory and the Missouri Natural Heritage Program came to be housed in Natural History Section during his tenure. He was also responsible for convincing MDC to start the Flora of Missouri Project in conjunction with the Missouri Botanical Garden. John felt that one important way to provide public outreach to Missourians interested in plants was to create a state native plant society, and he was directly responsible for bringing together the first group of people that led to the formation of MONPS.

John retired from MDC in 1987 after an amazing 37 years of service. Even after retiring, he kept active in Department activities and continued to be interested in MONPS and the Flora Project. His many achievements in conservation and natural history are a legacy that all Missourians have benefited from.

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.

Debra Ann Farley, Ash Flat, AR
Liz Kucera, Columbia
Aaron Schettler, Norman, OK
Nina Strang, Jefferson City

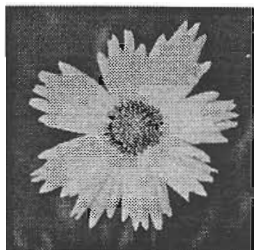


photo: jahar

Coreopsis lanceolata

Nominations Committee Report

by Robin Kennedy

The Society will elect two new board members this spring to take office following the annual meeting in June. The Nominations Committee (listed below) hereby nominates the following persons to fill the two (3 year term) board positions.

Kimberlie McCue — St. Louis, MO is the Conservation Biologist for the Missouri Botanical Garden, where she works to conserve rare plants in the midwest in affiliation with the Center for Plant Conservation.

Paul McKenzie — Columbia, MO, works for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where he is the Endangered Species Biologist and Coordinator for Missouri.

Steve Timme, Pittsburg, KS, is a Professor of Botany at Pittsburg State University in southeast Kansas, where he is also Director and Curator of the T.M. Sperry Herbarium.

If you would like to be considered for one of these positions or if you would like to nominate someone else, send a written nomination and a written second from another member. Also send a written confirmation of willingness to serve from the nominee. These documents should be sent to the address shown below before March 20, 1998.

Robin Kennedy, Chair, 300 Westwood Ave.
Columbia, MO 65203

Nominations Committee Members:
Marge McDermott, (Columbia)
JoAnn Whitley, (Columbia)



photo: jahar

Rudbeckia missouriensis

Like Roadside Wildflowers?

TELL MODOT AT 1-888-ASK MODOT

OR: WWW.MODOT.STATE.MO.US

by Mervin Wallace

If you have enjoyed the wildflowers and native grasses that have prospered the past few years on Missouri highway rights-of-way, please express your feelings to the Missouri Department of Transportation. Less mowing and mowing at greater heights during the past several years has helped native wildflowers and grasses on Missouri's roadsides and made a significant contribution to the biodiversity of Missouri. Your encouraging words could help these native species as MoDOT's roadside maintenance policies evolve over time.

2000 Spring Field Trips & Board Meeting – April 14-16 – West Plains, MO

To start the new millennium off right, we are drawn once again to that natural division of the State that is distinguished by being of the greatest age (geologically), the most physiographically diverse, normally receives plentiful moisture, all of which combined sustains our greatest regional species diversity. A distinct biota contains many endemics. Those who keep lists should bring extra paper and pencil - we can be assured of a wide variety of species. Those who wish to relax and wonder will find that aplenty. **All are welcome to join us!**

For more natural division details please visit : <http://www.conservation.state.mo.us/nathis/natdiv/>

If time permits, members may want to check out the exhibit at the West Plains Civic Center. MONPS member Casey Galvin has 30 prints of "Plants of Conservation Concern and Their Environment" on display. The exhibit opens April 15, 2000 and runs throughout April.

ITINERARY

| | | |
|----------|---------------|--|
| 14 April | Fri., 7:00 PM | Evening get-together: Rhonda Rimer, Department of Conservation, will present a talk and slide program about the south central Ozarks. Held at the Howell-Oregon Electric Coop. |
| 15 April | Sat., 8:30 AM | Field Trip to Turners Mill Access on the Eleven Point River: Meet in the parking lot of the Ramada Inn Motel in West Plains. Or meet about 9:45 at the access. |
| | Sat., Noon | Lunch: A free picnic lunch will be provided by the Hollis family at the Greer Access on the Eleven Point River. There will be sandwich makings, drinks and dessert. |
| | Sat., 1:30 PM | Field Trip to the Parrott/Cotton Farm on Big Hurricane Creek: Meet us at the Greer Access. This is a private property where we will explore the hills and hollows. No collecting. |
| | Sat. | Dinner: A number of fast food and nicer restaurants are near the Ramada Inn. |
| | Sat., 7:00 PM | MONPS Spring Board Meeting: Held at the Howell-Oregon Electric Coop. All MONPS members are invited to attend. |
| 16 April | Sun., 8:00 AM | Field Trip to Tingler Lake Conservation Area: Tim Smith will lead a trip to Tingler Lake Conservation Area, about 7 miles south of West Plains. The area contains a sinkhole pond, a wet prairie, and a population of Ozark wake robin that should be in bloom. |

DIRECTIONS

To Howell-Oregon Electric Coop: Located about 6 miles north of West Plains on Hwy 63, on the west side of the road. We will have a key to their meeting room all weekend so we can stay as late as needed.

To Turners Mill Access: From the Ramada Inn, go south on Hwy 63 to just north of Koshkonong. Go left, west, (north) on M Hwy to P Hwy. Go right (east) on P Hwy to Alton. Go right (south) on Hwy 160 to Hwy 19 (about 2 blocks). Go left (north) on Hwy 19 to AA Hwy (about a mile). Go right (east) on AA Hwy a little over 5 miles to a large wooden sign for Turners Mill Access. Turn left and go about 4 miles to the river.

To Greer Access on Eleven Point River: We will convoy from Turners Mill to Greer. If you are meeting us at Greer, go north on Hwy 19 from Alton about 7 miles. Cross the Eleven Point River bridge and turn right at the first road. If the weather is nice, we will be at the picnic area; otherwise, in the camping area. Both areas have circular roads. If you are early, wait at the picnic area, from which you can see us arrive.

To Parrot/Cotton Farm on Big Hurricane Creek: We will convoy from Greer to Big Hurricane (pronounced Harrykin). Go north on Hwy 19 nearly 2 miles to the first road on the right. Go right about 2 miles to the first clear road on the left. Go left and then stay right at the fork. The farm is at the bottom of the hill. We will park a quarter mile on down the road and cars should be in view.



photo: jahar

Hydrolea ovata

LODGING

- Ramada Inn 417-256-8191
West Plains, 1301 Preacher Roe Blvd.
Hwy 160 exit from Hwy 63.
Single \$43.00 + tax With full Breakfast \$48.00 + tax
Double \$50.00 + tax With full Breakfast \$55.00 + tax
Ask for MONPS discount.

- Rest Inn 417-256-1559
West Plains, on Hwy 63 south of Hwy 160, near Hwy ZZ junction.

Price Range \$23.00 to \$30.00 + tax

CAMPING

- Henry's RV Park 417-256-6759

Publications of Interest

ROADSIDE USE OF NATIVE PLANTS

September 1999. Prepared by the Water and Ecosystems Team, Office of Natural Environment, Federal Highway Administration, Washington, DC. 665 pages, (size 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 x 1 1/4 inches).

There are three main sections: Part One – Essays, pp. 9 – 47; Part Two – State Plant Listings (for every state), pp. 49 – 565; and Part Three – Appendices, pp. 567 – 665.

The Part One essays are succinct, very well done summaries ranging from What is a Native Plant, through Succession, Prescribed Burns, Invasive Plants, etc., and closing with a Roadside Land Ethic. Part Two lists suggested plants, endangered species (Fed. only), and noxious weeds (as available) plus natural vegetation zones map for every state. Part Three is broad ranging and includes excerpts of the laws and regulations that permit consideration of funding/plantings on federal highway projects, Economically Beneficial Landscaping Guidance, federal highway guidance and policy on invasive exotics, suggested readings, Related Web sites list, and various plant species relationship lists, among others.

This report may stir the embers among those who continue to maintain hope that the relentless demands of modern development (e.g., interstate highways, et al) and the survival of certain elements of our natural environment may at least be brought into a smidgen less hostile relationship. But this may be realized only when individuals and groups make it known that this quality of life factor is a desired public objective.

Requests for copies of the report should be sent to Fred Bank, Federal Highway Administration HEPN-30, Room 3240, 400 7th Street S. W., Washington, DC, 20590 or e-mail: Bonnie.Harper-Lore@fhwa.dot.gov

New Book

Peter Bernhardt (St. Louis Chapter) is pleased to announce the arrival of his third, popular book on plant life.

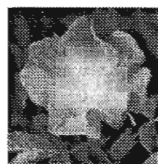


photo: jahar

Rosa arkasana

The Rose's Kiss; A Natural History of Flowers was published by Island Press (Shearwater Books) in 1999. This book has been written for naturalists, plant growers and conservationists providing an uncomplicated account of how flowers work. Early chapters simplify the anatomy and morphology of flowers native to North America, Europe, the equator and Australia. Readers are then invited to take a closer look at the natural mechanisms that lead to pollination. The final chapter distills the last thirty years of literature on fossil flowers and the origin of seed plants. Copies may be ordered electronically from virtual bookstores on the Net or purchased off the shelves at the gift shop of the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Barnes & Noble bookstore of St. Louis University. The *Rose's Kiss* has received flattering reviews in the journals *Science*, *Nature*, *Library Journal* and *American Gardener*.

Membership List:

Please check the two digits following your name. These digits describe the last year that the Treasurer's records show your dues paid. For example a "00" or "01" means paid up through this year or next year. A "99" means dues are delinquent and this will be the last *Petal Pusher* you will receive unless corrective action is taken. Life memberships are also indicated. If there are any corrections, please advise the Treasurer, Donna Kennedy (see back page for address).



photo: jahar

Monarda fistulosa

Woods Prairie: Revisited

Dear MONPS Board and members

On behalf of the Ozark Regional Land Trust, please accept my very sincere thanks for your recent donation of \$300.00 toward the acquisition and protection of Woods Prairie. As you know, our efforts to preserve this beautiful and rare prairie have been underway for two years now, and the support of friends like MONPS when we needed it the most has been truly exceptional. You can be certain that your gift has been put to very good use toward the permanent protection and stewardship of Woods Prairie.

In case you don't already have directions, the prairie is about four miles east of Mount Vernon, MO. From east or west on Interstate Highway 44, take the Chesapeake exit (#49) and go east (which may seem south) toward Chesapeake on Highway 174. At about 3 miles, turn south onto Highway K. Proceed 1.5 miles and turn right onto Farm Road 2125. The prairie is 3/4 mile down this road on the left. There are no signs as of yet, and the area next to the road looks like an ordinary fescue pasture. But look up the hill for either a burned area (winter) or a vista of colorful wildflowers and Mima mounds (summer).

Just last week, after much anticipation, we finally burned the prairie for the first time in more than 100 years! We are all very excited to see the results of the burn this summer and hope that many MONPS members will make an effort to visit Woods Prairie this summer as well.

Thanks very much again for your support of this great project.

Sincerely, Andrew Thomas,
Director and Chair, Woods Prairie Committee

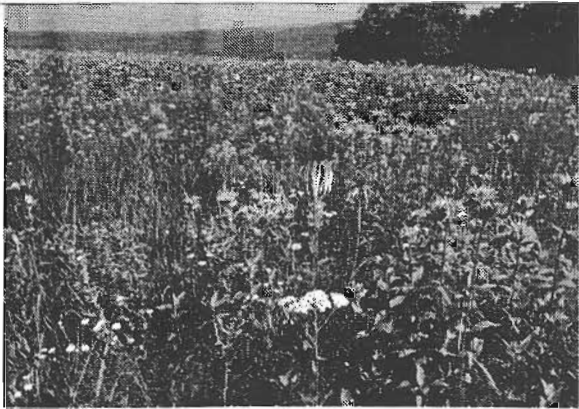


photo: jahar

Lawrence County



photo: jahar

Pickle Springs Natural Area



photo: jahar

Roaring River Conservation Area

Help Build a Butterfly Garden

Volunteers are needed to help the Webster Groves Nature Study Society (WGNSS) build a large butterfly garden. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) folks at Busch Wildlife Area have offered a plot of ground near the new headquarters building for this project. If various individuals and nature groups will provide the help needed to collect and distribute seeds for favorite nectaring plants the program will begin soon. There is great potential here, seventy-five species of butterflies have been recorded in the area. A specific schedule has not been set yet. If you have ideas on what plants are best for this area, or if you would like to participate in any particular way, please advise:

Yvonne Homeyer (314-963-7750 or homeyer@postnet.com) or Jack Harris (314-894-9021 or jahar@stlnet.com).

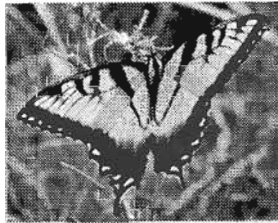


photo: jahar

Tiger swallowtail

Help Wanted

SHAW ARBORETUM SEEKS AMATEUR BOTANIST VOLUNTEERS

Shaw Arboretum is seeking special volunteers to work in the Whitmire Wildflower Garden with Missouri native plants. We are looking for an amateur botanist or someone who is familiar with a wide variety of Missouri native plants and would like to work in the wildflower garden weekly with plant labeling and identification. The wildflower garden currently has about 800 species and varieties of native plants of the prairie, wetland, limestone glade, savanna, and woodland. This would be a great opportunity to brush up on native plant identification and observe them through the seasons. Following the initial training, the volunteers would be mostly working on their own keeping labels on the right plants.

Please contact Scott Woodbury at 636-451-3512 or scott.woodbury@mobot.org for further information.

Letters

Dear Editor:

There is a slight error in the January-February 2000 issue of *Petal Pusher*. Page 10 has an article entitled "Mymechory and Elaiosome." The text goes on to define mymechory as the dispersal of seeds by ants. Please note that scientists always write this word as myrmecchory. It's important to correct the spelling for two reasons.

First, botanists have used the word, myrmex, to name several, tropical genera of flowering plants that encourage ants to live in their hollow stems. When we visit a botanical garden it's easier to find Myrmecodia plants (Rubiaceae) once we know the spelling on identification tags. Second, myrmex is such an ancient, greek word it figures in a number of myths. The Myrmidons are a race of male warriors descended from ants who fight for Greece during the Trojan war. In a less well-known myth Athena, the goddess of wisdom, changes the boastful nymph, Myrmex, into an ant for claiming falsely that she, not Athena, invented the first plough.

Elaisomes (also known as caruncles) are found on the seeds of many woodland herbs. If you don't have *Lamium amplexicaule* in your garden you may also examine seeds of *Sanguinaria canadensis*, some milkworts (*Polygala*), trout lilies (*Erythronium*) and some violets including lawn-invading *V. soraria*. While ants are the major dispersal agents of small seeds with elaisomes crickets and some ground beetles also play a part in moving the seed away from its parent plant.

Sincerely, Peter Bernhardt

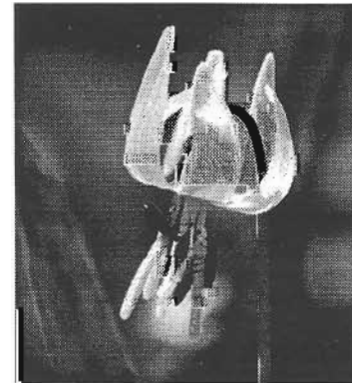


photo: jahar

Erythronium albidum

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SOCIETY DUES

(Chapter dues additional)

Student \$5.00
 Regular \$10.00
 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

(Circle all that apply)

Make check payable to: Missouri Native Plant Society

Mail to: Donna Kennedy, Treasurer
 816 Samone Ct., Ballwin, MO 63021

Name _____
 Street _____
 City, State, 9 digit Zip _____
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- 2000 Board Nominations
- Spring Field Trips & Board Meeting
- Membership List

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

Jack Harris
9708 Green Park Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-894-9021
jahar@sitnet.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Sue Hollis
3311 Gillham
Kansas City, MO 64109
816-561-9419
ferngro@worldnet.att.net

SECRETARY

Lynda Richards
15676 CR 7170
Rolla, MO 65401-7570
573-364-8567

TREASURER

Donna Kennedy
816 Samone Ct.
Ballwin, MO 63021
636-256-7578
fishn2@primary.net

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Larry Morrison
625 Wildwood Lane
O'Fallon, IL 62269
618-624-5964
Larry.Morrison@scott.af.mil

BOARD MEMBERS

Pam Haverland ('99-'02)
6901 Ginlet Lane
Columbia, MO 65201
573-443-2189
pamela_haverland@usgs.gov

Robin Kennedy ('99-'02)
300 Westwood Ave.
Columbia, MO 65203
573-443-5625
rkennedy@
biosci.mbp.missouri.edu

Ralph Lindgren ('98-'01)
2209 Kentucky Ave.
Joplin, MO 64804-2145
417-623-8084
rglind@4state.com

Bruce Schuette ('98-'01)
678 St. Rt. 147
Troy, MO 63379
636-528-7247 (w)
baessch@nothnbut.net

Tim Smith ('97-'00)
1704 W. Main
Jefferson City, MO 65109
573-635-8085
smitht2@
mail.conservation.state.mo.us

Ann Wakeman ('97-'00)
5798 Windy Meadows Lane
Fulton, MO 65251
573-642-6927
mike-ann@socketis.net

ARCHIVES/BADGE PROG.

Jim Bogler
7916 Col. Dent Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-842-0111
jbogler@primary.net

ENV. AND EDUC.

John Oliver
4861 Gatesbury Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63128
314-487-5924
oliver@
mail.lindbergh.k12.mo.us

FIELD TRIPS

Tim Smith
(see board members)

MEMBERSHIP

Pat Grace
30 N. Iola
Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-961-2511

PUBLICITY

Nels Holmberg
530 W Whiskey Creek Rd.
Washington, MO 63090
636-583-4551
s961859@Admiral.umsl.edu

MISSOURIENSIS, CO-EDITORS

George Yatskievych
MO Botanical Garden
P.O. Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166
314-577-9522 (w)
gyatskievych@rschctr.mobot.org

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

PETAL PUSHER, CO-EDITORS

Carl Darigo
553 Mapleview
University City, MO 63130
314-863-7057
carl.darigo@slug.org

Pat Harris
9708 Green Park Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-894-9021
pharris@stlnet.com

EDITORIAL COMM.

David Castaner
Paul Redfearn
Tim Smith
Stephen L. Timme

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES COLUMBIA

Pam Haverland
(see board members)

JEFFERSON CITY

Ann Grotjan
59110 Redbud Rd.
California, MO 65018
573-796-4478

KANSAS CITY

Daniel Rice
815 W. 31st St.
Independence, MO 64055
816-461-0206
Drice95875@aol.com

OSAGE PLAINS

Marlene Miller
949 NE Hwy C
Calhoun, MO 65323
660-694-3581
jwmiller@iland.com (h)
mtmiller@tacnet.missouri.org

ST. LOUIS

John Oliver
(see Env. & Educ.)