

November - December 2002

Vol. 17, No. 6

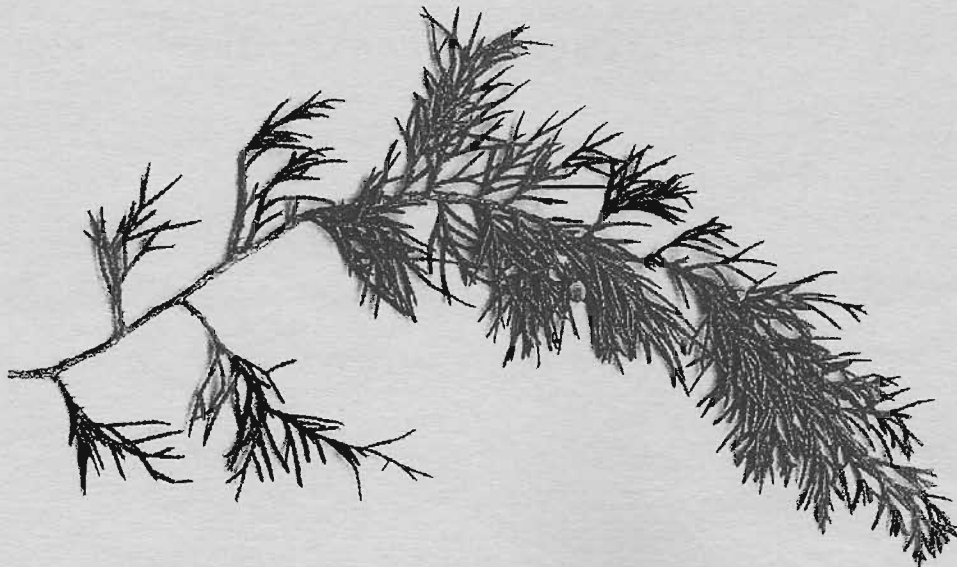
Missouri Native Plant Society

November

- 11** Mon., 7:00 PM **Boone County Watersheds** presented by Dr. Charles Laun. Held at MDC's Research Center, Columbia 1110 S. College (NE corner of College & Stadium).
-
- 21** Thur., 7:00 PM **Chapter Meeting.** Program to be determined. Held at the Discovery Center, 4750 Troost. **Note the change in night and location.**
-
- 23** Sat., 1:00-4:00 PM **Wreath Workshop** led by Pam Haverland. Please add your name to the sign up list and bring dried materials to share. Contact Paula at 573-474-4225 for details

December

- 1** **Due date for material for January-February *Petal Pusher*.** Please send meeting and field trip information and articles (typed double-spaced) to the editor by this date. Send e-mail to: paharris@mac.com
-
- 5** Thur., 11:30 AM **Hawthorn Chapter Board Meeting** at the Uprise Bakery on Broadway. Everyone is invited. Columbia
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- 7** Sat., 9:00 AM **Winter Board Meeting** at Dunn-Palmer Herbarium. See page 3 for details. Columbia
-
- 8** Sun., 3:00-5:00 PM **Christmas Party** held at Nadia Nararrete's home, 573-234-2088. Watch newsletter for details. Columbia



Give A Gift of Nature! A MONPS Membership!

Bruce Schuette Heads Up Nominating Committee

Every two years the MONPS conducts an election to fill the positions of President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary, and two of six at-large board members. The individuals so elected have the honor of participating, with the other board members, in conducting the Society's business of advocating/promoting the interests of the **Native Flora** of the State of Missouri. The next election will take place during the first few months of next year and the results will be announced in June 2003.

The development of the list of nominees/candidates for the election is carried out by the Nominating Committee. The functions of this Committee are vital to the continued existence and operations of the Society. The Nominating Committee must consist of a minimum of three MONPS members, one of whom must be a member of the current Board of Directors (BoD).

At the last meeting of the BoD, the President appointed Bruce Schuette as chairman of the 2002 - 2003 Nominating Committee. Larry Morrison is a member of the committee. The committee will forward a list of nominees/candidates to the Ballot Committee which will oversee the preparation of the ballot.

The Society is searching for one member who would like to assist Bruce and Larry. This is a one time appointment which automatically terminates upon delivery of the list of nominees to the Ballot Committee. Interested parties should contact Bruce Schuette (see back page).

All Society members are urged to assist the Nominating Committee. Please consider becoming a candidate, or advise the committee of any individuals that you believe should be considered.

Help Make A Difference? Here's How!

The position of Society **Treasurer** is now vacant. The Missouri Native Plant Society is searching for someone who would like to make a significant contribution to the continued beneficial operations of the Society. An appointment to fill the unexpired term of this vacancy would extend to 30 June 2003. At that time the position would be filled by routine election procedures for a term of two years.

A synopsis of the duties of the Treasurer are as follows:

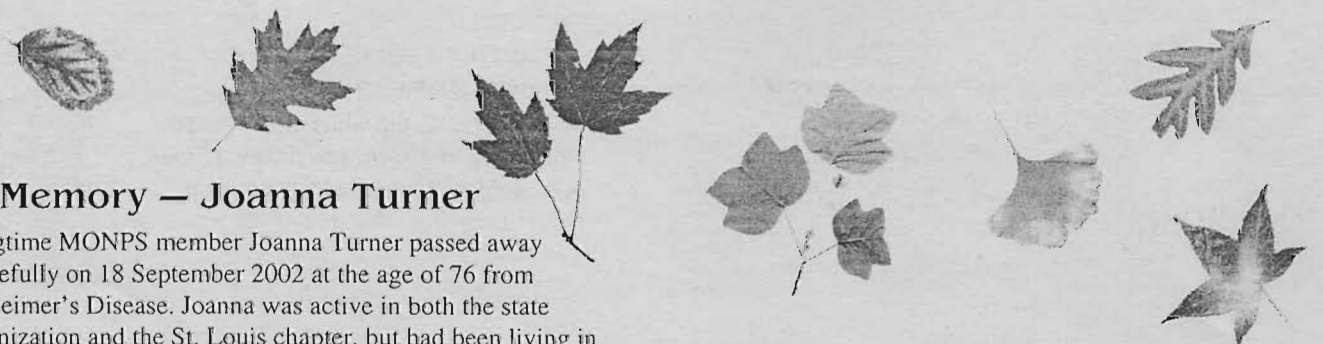
1. Maintain the Society's financial accounts and transactions;
2. Deposit all monies, make disbursements and maintain Society accounts at an appropriate financial institution;
3. Report to the Board of Directors on the financial status of the Society;
4. Prepare and file necessary financial reports to State and Federal agencies;
5. Work in close coordination with the Membership committee in order to maintain accurate membership status; and
6. Participate in Society operations as an officer and voting member of the Board of Directors (BoD). The BoD normally meets four times a year.

The Society By-laws prescribe that an appointment may be made to fill an unexpired term in the event of a vacancy such as has occurred in this case. The Society President's nomination would then be submitted to the BoD for confirmation.

Interested parties are invited to inquire of the President or any member of the BoD (see back of *Petal Pusher*) about this opportunity to serve the Society and the mission to which it is dedicated.

And please relay this info to any and all that may be interested. Thank you for your assistance.

Jack H. Harris, President, 314-894-9021, jahar@r.com



In Memory – Joanna Turner

Longtime MONPS member Joanna Turner passed away peacefully on 18 September 2002 at the age of 76 from Alzheimer's Disease. Joanna was active in both the state organization and the St. Louis chapter, but had been living in Colorado for the past several years. A tribute to Joanna is scheduled to appear in the next issue of *Missouriensis*.

Joanna was the co-author of the widely referenced *Catalogue of the Flora of Missouri*.

In Memory – Leonard Blake

We regret to advise that long time MONPS member Leonard Blake passed away on 19 August 2002, after a short stay in the hospital. Leonard was 99 years old. The last time he accompanied the Webster Grove Nature Study Society Botany Group was in April 2001. He was undoubtedly the botany group's most senior participant ever – and will likely hold the record for a long time.

Leonard was the co-author of *Plants from the Past*, 2001.

2002 Winter Board Meeting

COLUMBIA, MO — DECEMBER 7, 2002

All Missouri Native Plant Society members and friends are invited to attend the winter MONPS state board meeting. If you want to have a voice in **your** Society, now is your chance. This is a business meeting, so plan to stay all day. The meeting starts at 9:00 AM and will end not later than 3:00 PM. We will be meeting at the Dunn-Palmer Herbarium. See directions below.

Coffee and hot water will be available during the morning (bring your own teabags and instant de-caf if you need those). Bagels and cream cheese will also be provided. We will be ordering lunch in. Or bring a lunch if desired.

FIELD TRIP IDEAS FOR 2003

We will be planning the field trips associated with the quarterly board meetings. If you have a favorite area or two that you would like us to visit, join us in Columbia. Or you may contact an officer or board member with your suggestions before the meeting.

DIRECTIONS

To Dunn-Palmer Herbarium: From the east, drive west on I-70 to (Exit 128), take US Hwy 63 S, towards Jefferson City; go south to the Stadium Blvd. exit. Then west to the 4th traffic light (this cross street is named College Ave. to the North, Rock Quarry Rd. to the south). Drive south ≈ 1/8 mile on Rock Quarry Rd., turn right into driveway and park near the "Museum Support Center."

From the west, drive east on I-70 to (Exit 124) take Stadium Blvd. south. Stay on Stadium blvd. as it goes south and then curves east past the football stadium and the Hearn's Basketball Arena. Turn right (south) on Rock Quarry Rd. (there is a stop light here) and drive south ≈ 1/8 mile on Rock Quarry Rd., turn right into driveway and park near the "Museum Support Center."



Raveill and Oliver Accept Appointments

At the 14 September 2002 meeting of the Society Officers and Board of Directors in Kahoka, MO, the appointments of Dr. Jay Raveill to the position of Vice-President and of John Oliver to the Society Board received confirmation by the Board. The appointments were made to fill vacancies in unexpired terms. Dr. Raveill will assume the duties of Vice-President until June 2003. At that time the position will be filled by routine election procedures. John Oliver's term of office will expire in June 2004.

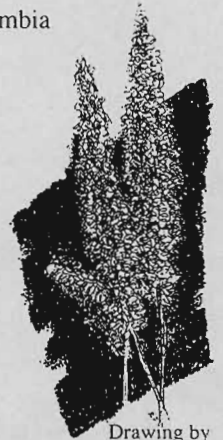
Congratulations are in order!

Petal Pusher

Welcome to New Members

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

Barbara Carter, Hallsville
Jack Eads, Dove Canyon
Trevor Harris & Lisa Groshong, Columbia
Geovanne Hartwig, Columbia
Virginia Heise, Malden
Louise Langbein, Arnold
Tom Ledford, Crystal Lakes
Charlie Raiser, Kirkwood
So. Central Native Grass &
Wildflower Seeds Co., Houston
Maxine Stone, Webster Groves
George Thornburgh, St. Louis
Betty Walters, Ballwin
Gretchen Walters, St. Louis
John R. White, Excelsior Springs
Patti Wright, St. Louis
Agnes Wylie, Jefferson City
Charles Yates, St. Louis



Drawing by
Jim Ziebol

It's Later Than You Think — Again!

On my most recent stroll around the yard, it was evident that the various sunflowers (*Helianthus*), Goldenrod (*Solidago*), and certain of the later blooming Asters (*A. sericeus*, *A. oblongifolius*, *A. puniceus*) had passed their peak blooming phase. The hazelnut (*Corylus americana*) was already producing catkins and the Virginia creeper or woodbine (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) fruits were slowly changing from a green to their final dark purple/blue at the ends of bright red stems while the leaves made the transition through a metallic green to the more colorful reds and yellows.



Irrefutable signals that one should prepare for the winter season — ready or not.

First locate the white crown beard (*Verbesina virginica*) and dittany (*Cunila organoides*). Clear the leaf and plant debris away from the base of the plants so you can observe the intricate frost flowers when they arrive on the first hard freeze - likely to occur in late November or beyond. Locate the eastern witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) and schedule a flower viewing visit in November-December. Then lay some action on the otherwise dreary January-February calendar — schedule a flower watching and odor sniffing visit to a good population of close cousin Ozark witch hazel (*Hamamelis vernalis*). The odor is very pleasant on an unusually warm and sunny February day.



The native flora of Missouri always has an act in the wings — participate and enjoy!

Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights

SEPTEMBER 14, 2002

President Jack Harris, 14 board members and 4 guests met at the Welcome Inn, Kahoka, MO.

Treasurer's Report: The President recommended that the Board of Directors (BoD) take action to remedy the organizations impaired condition due to the extended period of time that the position of Treasurer has in fact been vacant. All reasonable actions have been taken to communicate with the present incumbent to no avail. Accordingly, the BoD moved, seconded and carried (MSC) the position be declared vacant, and directed that a search for a replacement be undertaken.

Subsequently the President, acting as interim Treasurer in the absence of the Society Treasurer, submitted a report on the recent financial transactions in the Society accounts. A present balance of \$16,817.40 was reported.

Other Vacant Board Positions: See article on page 3.

Stan Hudson Memorial Fund: Jay Raveill, chairman of the MONPS memorial fund committee, reported on the status of the proposal evaluation accomplished since the last BoD meeting. The estate of Stan Hudson had made it known to MONPS that Stan wished to make certain contributions to the Society for the purposes of supporting education in botany. Also that memorial tributes in his behalf should be directed to MONPS for that purpose. The BoD agreed to accept the offer in principle. Pursuant to the Society setting up such a formal program, it was MSC that an ad hoc committee be established to set specific guidelines for the Stan Hudson Memorial Fund including guidelines for the make-up of a permanent review committee and for administration of awards, to be considered by the BoD for implementation. The Ad Hoc Committee membership was appointed as follows: Jay Raveill, Chair; Paul McKenzie, John Oliver, and George Yatskievych,

Membership: Ann Earley reported that there have been 11 new memberships since June. And there have been 90 renewals during that time. So far, there are 135 non-renewals.



MONPS Chapter Web Sites

Kansas City www.angelfire.com/mo2/kcmonps/
Columbia <http://www.digmo.com/npsboco>

WWW. SITES FOR MISSOURI BOTANY:

Flora of Missouri Project:
<http://ridgwaydb.mobot.org/mobot/missouri/>
Atlas of Missouri Vascular Plants:
http://biology.smsu.edu/herbarium/atlas/atlas_of_missouri_vascular_plant.htm

OTHER SITES:

KCWildlands: www.kcwildlands.org

Chapter News

Kansas City — We have had a fairly quiet summer. Members participated in Kansas City's first ever BioBlitz, sponsored by KCWildlands. Over 70 scientists and amateurs gathered at the Rocky Point Day Camp in Swope Park on June 14th to identify as many species of plants, animals, and protozoa as possible in a 24-hour period. Three separate areas were surveyed: a south-facing glade, a north-facing slope, and a marsh. The total is still not complete, but we found 305 species of plants in a 2-hour period! The other totals are: 11 aquatic species, 5 species of bees, 61 species of birds, 11 exotic species (excluding plants), 11 species of dragonflies, 15 species of fungi, 11 species of mammals, and 14 species of herps. As you can see, the event was a resounding success! We now have a baseline from which to monitor species changes occurring in the future.

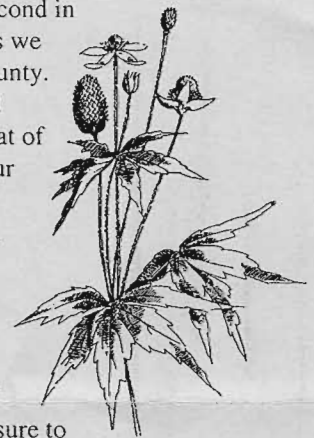
Our July 6th field trip was the second in our attempt to identify all the species we can at the Winn property in Cass County. This will take several field trips (and years) to accomplish. Even in the heat of early July, we added 22 species to our list, including *Anemone virginiana*, *Liatris punctata*, and *Bromus kalmii*.

The Chapter now has a new meeting time and place. Starting in September, we will be meeting at the Discovery Center on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. If you happen to visit Kansas City, be sure to stop at the Discovery Center, a great new urban nature center run by the Department of Conservation.

Future events include a field trip to Hidden Valley Park on September 22nd, a field trip to Maple Woods Park on October 13th, and our final Chapter meeting on November 21st at the Discovery Center.

St. Louis — Our June meeting was a hot and humid hike at Rockwoods Reservation, where David Bruns gave a small group an up-close look at some common, and a few unusual lichens. The July, David presented an indoor program on the lichens of the St. Louis area. David is an Education Consultant for MDC. In August, members Jack & Pat Harris presented a program on the glades of Missouri, surprising everyone by starting with a brief exploration of the Webster Dictionary definition of 'glade.' Also, Nels Holmberg proposed the chapter adopt a glade along Hwy 47 in Franklin County. Nels will look into it further.

In July, Pat Grace made her annual pilgrimage to Iron Lake and Bismark Lake in Iron and St. Francois Counties to see the purple fringeless orchids (*Platanthera peramoena*).



Tidbits

KUDZU KILLERS

Under the title "Weed-whacking Sheep," the June 2002 *National Geographic's* Geographica Section carried an article on use of sheep to remove kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*). Since arriving in the U.S. from Asia in 1876, kudzu has smothered native plants on millions of acres of the Southeast, and is moving north. Various mechanical and chemical attempts to eliminate the pest plants have proven futile, as the vine can grow a foot a day. The Tallahassee, FL city parks have turned to sheep, who apparently not only love to eat the plants, but also their sharp hooves damage the kudzu's root system. Currently, 500 animals are munching about an acre a day from 500 acres of parkland. The heat-tolerant sheep, resembling goats more than sheep, originated in the Caribbean and Africa.

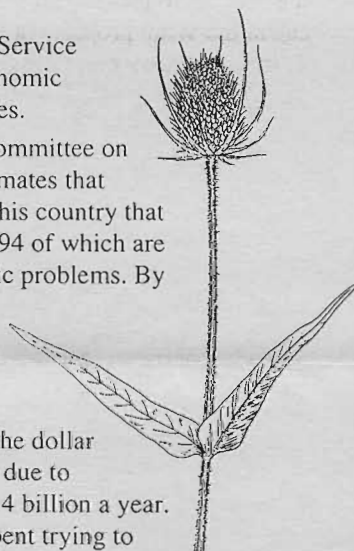
COSTLY EXOTICS

From the Environmental News Service comes an update on the US economic impacts of harmful exotic species.

The Federal Interagency Committee on Noxious and Exotic Weeds estimates that there are about 1,400 plants in this country that are not native to this continent, 94 of which are causing ecological and economic problems. By some estimates, about 4,600 acres per day nationwide fall victim to the effects of non-native species.

Translated to economics - the dollar loss in agricultural productivity due to exotics competition is about \$7.4 billion a year. Another \$3.6 - \$5.4 billion is spent trying to combat the affects of these pests.

Public participation is required if success is ever achieved. You can help in the war against exotics by: 1. Learn to identify the enemy, and exterminate it; 2. Use only native plantings on your property, i.e., cut off the sources; as demand for native stock grows the markets will swing to a wider availability; 3. Help contain the contamination - take care to prevent the spread of seeds, cuttings, etc.



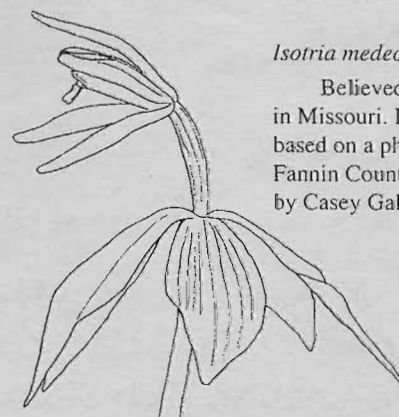
APPRECIATE THAT MOSS?

Biotechnology may employ the moss *Physcomitrella patens* to produce human proteins for medicinal purposes. Based on a patent of Prof. Reski of the Institute of Biotechnology of Plants, University of Freiberg, Germany, a company is also preparing to use a transgenic version of *Physcomitrella* to produce the blood clotting factor IX for pharmaceutical purposes. For a peek at a little more info one may visit: <http://www.greenovation.com>

From an advisory by Jan-Peter Frahm, Botanisches Institut der Universitat, Bonn.

RED ALERT ON SPECIES EXTINCTION

An updated Red List (from *GREENLines*, October 9, 2002, Issue 1722) puts the number of known plants and animals threatened with extinction at 11,167 species, 121 more than the last edition two years ago reports BBC News 10/7. Since 2000, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) assessed 400 new species and added 124 to one of the threatened categories: critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable. A central Asian antelope, the saiga, the Iberian lynx and Bactrian camel were singled out as facing the highest risk of extinction. Over a hundred plants were added to the list that now numbers 5,714 but with only 4% of the world's plants evaluated scientists say the "true percentage of threatened species is much higher." According to the IUCN, "the extinction crisis was as bad as many people feared, with some 'dramatic' population declines." The Red List is online at <http://www.redlist.org>



Isotria medeoloides

Believed extirpated in Missouri. Drawing based on a photo taken in Fannin County Georgia by Casey Galvin.

INFORMATION ON JOINING 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)

Do not publish my name and address in the membership list.

Make check payable to: Missouri Native Plant Society

Mail to: Missouri Native Plant Society
PO Box 20073, St. Louis, MO 63144-0073

Name _____

Street _____

City, State _____

9 digit Zip _____ Phone _____

e-mail _____

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- Winter Board Meeting
- Board Appointments
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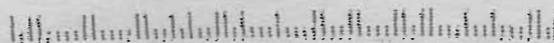
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