

May - June 2004

1979 - 2004 Happy 25th Anniversary

Vol. 19, No. 3

Missouri Native Plant Society

May

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Sat., 10:00 AM
St. Louis | Field Trip led by Jeannie Moe to the Watershed Nature Center, Edwardsville, Illinois. Meet at the Center, I-70 to Hwy 157 through Edwardsville, W on St. Louis St., N on Elm St., W on Randle St., N on Terry Ave, which turns into Tower Ave, to Center on left. |
| 1 - 2 | Sat. & Sun.
Kansas City | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM AND 12 Noon - 5:00 PM, Respectively. Annual Native Plant Sale at Powell Gardens. Chapter members will sell plants from the Missouri Wildflower Nursery. For more information, contact Sue Hollis, 816-561-9419, <fernro@att.net>. |
| 2 | Sunday
Columbia | Field Trip to Shaw Nature Reserve , Gray Summit. For more information, contact Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, 573-234-2088, <navarrenten@missouri.edu>. |
| 9 | Sunday
Columbia | Hike at Paris Fork , Callaway County, led by Ann Wakeman. Contact Nadia Navarrete-Tindall. |
| 10 | Mon., 7:00 PM
Columbia | Robin Kennedy, University of Missouri Herbarium , will present the program at the regular Hawthorne Chapter Meeting, Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. |
| 15 | Sat., 9:00 AM
Kansas City | Field Trip to Camp Branch Prairie , owned by Al and Linda Storms. This a privately owned prairie remnant with a limestone glade; we may go on to another location. Bring water. Meet at the Bannister Mall Wal-Mart on Hillcrest Road. We will be near the street in front of the southern end of the store. Contact Sue Hollis. |
| 17 | Mon., 7:00 PM
Clinton | Defining Our Bioregion will be presented by Lawrence Lewis, Osceola . Regular Osage Plains Chapter Meeting held at the Courthouse Meeting Room, Clinton. |
| 20 | Thurs., 7:00 PM
Kansas City | Regular Kansas City Chapter Meeting at the Discovery Center, 4750 Troost, Kansas City, MO. Speaker and program is to be announced. Contact Sue Hollis. |
| 22 | Sat., 8:30 AM
Kansas City | Field Trip to Slip Bluff Park near Lamoni, Iowa , to see the small white ladyslipper orchid. We will probably stop at Wallace State Park, or another place on the way back. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the car park at the corner of I-35 and Highway 152 in Liberty. If you want to meet us in Lamoni, contact Sue Hollis. |
| 22 | Sat., 9:30 AM
Clinton | Osage Plains Field Trip . Location to be announced. Meet at the parking lot west of the Henry County Library, 123 Green Street. |
| 26 | Wed., 7:30 PM
St. Louis | Joe Walsh, the Missouri Mycological Society , will present "Exploring the Ozarks for Mushrooms" at the regular St. Louis Chapter meeting, Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, 11715 Cragwood Road, Kirkwood (off Geyer Road, between Watson and Big Bend). |
| 29 | Saturday
Columbia | Hawthorn Chapter Field Trip to Laura Ellifrit's to view their prairie and wetlands restoration. Contact Nadia Navarrete-Tindall. |



SEE PAGE 2 FOR JUNE EVENTS

June

- 1** **Due date for material for July–August *Petal Pusher*.** Please send meeting, field trip information and articles (typed double-spaced), photographs and graphics to the editor by this date. Send e-mail to: Betty Walters, MONPS Newsletter Editor, at <bettyluvsinsects@yahoo.com>.
- 5** Sat., 8:30 AM **Field Trip to Winn Prairie** where we should find Mead's Milkweed in bloom, along with many other prairie plants. Afterwards, we will go to Tickwood, a prairie-in-restoration by Dave Alburty and Carol Pranulis. Bring water, lunch, and insect repellent. Meet at the Bannister Mall Wal-Mart on Hillcrest Road. We will be near the street in front of the southern end of the store. Contact Sue Hollis.
- 11-13** Friday - Sunday **MONPS Field Trip and Annual Board Meeting.**
West Plains
- 21** Mon., 7:00 PM **Regular Osage Plains Chapter Meeting** held at the Courthouse Meeting Room, Clinton.
Clinton Program to be announced.
- 23** Wed., 6:00 PM **Twilight Walk, Al Foster Trail along the Meramec River.** Meet at the trailhead on the east side of State Highway 109 in Glencoe. If the participants wish, the group may go to dinner after the hike.
St. Louis
- 26** Sat., 9:30 AM **Osage Plains Field Trip.** Location to be announced. Meet at the parking lot west of the Henry County Library, 123 Green Street.
Clinton

MONPS June Field Trip Schedule & Annual Board Meeting

Members and friends are invited to join us on our second trip of the year to the Ozark Mountain Region. We are in search of mima mounds, sinkhole ponds, and rare plants. Saturday we will visit two privately-owned ponds and the Tingler Prairie Natural Area—see Page 4 for more information about this unique wet-mesic prairie ecosystem. We hope to see you on the Ozark trails in June!

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, 11 JUNE 2004 **7:00 to 9:00 PM** – Get together at the Missouri Department of Conservation Ozark Regional Office's auditorium, 551 Joe Jones Blvd., West Plains, MO, 417-256-7161.

SATURDAY, 12 JUNE 2004 **8:00 AM** – Meet at motel parking lot for drive to Tingler Prairie Conservation Area, south of West Plains. (Note: This area has had a name change and may be in your Conservation Atlas as Tingler Lake C. A.) Take Hwy. 17 for about 6 mi south of Hwy 63. Turn right (west) onto Howell Co. rd. 9100. At 0.75 mi, turn left (south) onto Howell Co. rd. 8110. At about 1.25 mi, the parking area for Tingler is on the left. At this site, we will visit a wet-mesic prairie with mima mounds and several rare plants, a 5-acre sinkhole pond, and the only known Missouri site for a Hawthorn, *Crataegus spathulata*.

11:30 AM – Leave Tingler Prairie for short drive south to Van Derhoef Mem. State Forest where we will have a picnic lunch (bring your own). A picnic area with privies is available. Leave Tingler Prairie by continuing south on co. rd. 8110. This road continues south, with a few twists and turns. The Van Derhoef Area is on the left (east side of rd.) at about 4.5 mi.

1:00 PM – Leave the VanDerhoef Area for field trip to Myatt Pond, a privately-owned sinkhole pond with several rare plants, including Hall's bulrush and dwarf burhead. Go back north on co. rd. 8110 for about 2.2 mi to co. rd. 9380. Turn right (east) onto co. rd. 9380 and go 1.5 mi to co. rd. 8390. Take a left (north) on co. rd. 8390 and go about 2.0 mi to Hwy 17. Turn right (east) onto Hwy 17 and go 1.0 mi. Where Hwy 17 turns back to the right (south), keep going straight on co. rd. 9180. Continue east on co. rd. 9180 for about 2.2 mi. We will be parking on the right (south) side of this road for access to Myatt Pond. If time allows we may also visit Adobesee Pond, which is in the same ownership and is on the north side of co. rd. 9180. Rubber boots may be a good idea for visiting these sinkhole ponds.

5:00 PM – Leave Myatt Pond area for supper in West Plains.

6:00 PM – Annual Board Meeting at MDC Ozark Regional Office. Everyone is invited!

SUNDAY, 13 JUNE 2004 **8:00 AM** – Meet at motel parking lot for field trip to George O. White State Forest Nursery near Licking. This facility is just off of Hwy 63 and is a little over an hour north of West Plains.

LODGING

SUPER 8, TELEPHONE 417-256-8088

\$44.10 PER ROOM, IF YOU CALL THE MOTEL

1210 PORTER WAGONER BLVD. – BUSINESS 63, NORTH OF THE DOWNTOWN AREA – WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI

DURING THE SUMMER WEEKENDS, THEY FILL UP. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM!

Petals & Wings

Betty Walters, Editor



"Maybe you found it right after the herbivore left it," Professor Bob Marquis said. He had come from the Research Building Friday morning to have a look at the *Alliaria petiolata*, garlic mustard, plant I had taken from Washington University's Tyson Research Center Thursday evening. We sat at a table in Woods Hall on UMSL's campus examining the damaged leaves, roots, rock and soil for larvae and eggs. Bob seemed fairly certain it was caterpillar damage. I had thought, perhaps, beetles; yet, when he left, all we had was a guess, a riddle still to be solved.

Two groups, working in two shifts and a total of 25 people, had come to Tyson on Thursday, April 8th to help in the research center's "Garlic Mustard Attack Day." As the group I was working with moved up the ravine, pulling out the choking garlic mustard, roots and all, native plants emerged into view - *Lilium michiganense*, Michigan lily, *Trillium sessile*, Wake robin; *Sanguinaria canadensis*, Bloodroot; *Delphinium tricorne*, Dwarf larkspur; and a fruitful patch of highly prized Morel mushrooms.

We all saw and pulled hundreds of plants that were untouched undamaged, perfect looking, like garden plants sprayed with insecticide. Garlic mustard was, indeed, once a mere European garden potherb, but when it was brought to our country, it escaped into the wild, spread from the East Coast west to Utah, and continues to devastate sensitive ecological areas because it has no known natural enemies on the continent to help contain it.

So yes, I was excited when I saw the garlic mustard plants my specimen came from, there beneath the forested under story in the rocky soil on the Tyson's southwest edge. I recognized the same look in Nels Holmberg's face as he said what we both were thinking, "Herbivory!" We were looking at plants with an enemy - in addition to we humans.

Earlier, I had spotted a female Falcate orange tip sheltering in the brush nearby. Later, Jane Walker would ask, "Did you notice all the Falcate orange tips flying around the garlic mustard? They were all over in some spots during the first shift, both males and females." These butterflies, *Falcapica midea*, are members of the *Pieridae* family, commonly referred to as Whites, and yes, the species found in Missouri utilize the mustard family, *Brassicaceae*, as a host plant for their caterpillars. Could these butterflies be laying their eggs on these plants, and could the caterpillars hatching from those eggs be responsible for the leaf damage?

Research has been conducted on one butterfly that does use garlic mustard as a host plant, but this species is not present in Missouri. "Garlic mustard also poses a threat to one of our rare native insects, the West Virginia white butterfly,

(*Pieris virginiensis*). Several species of spring wildflowers known as 'toothworts' (*Dentaria*), also in the mustard family, are the primary food source for the caterpillar stage of this butterfly. Invasions of garlic mustard are causing local extirpations of the toothworts, and chemicals in garlic mustard appear to be toxic to the eggs of the butterfly, as evidenced by their failure to hatch when laid on garlic mustard plants." <<http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/distr/lepid/bflyusa/usa/779.htm>>

According to Washington University's Assistant Professor Jonathan Chase, he and Mickey, a PhD student from St. Louis University, had also observed similar leaf damage the week before while sampling their garlic mustard study plots at Tyson.

"I agree that most of it looks like Lepidoptera, but I think there might also be some beetle damage as well. We found a ton of variation in the level of herbivory, ranging from 0-20% or so. Mickey and I are planning to do some observational work this summer quantifying levels of damage, and in particular, how it varies across the invasion front. I think it would be very interesting to figure out what sorts of things are doing the damage, and we will be sure to collect anything we find, and find someone who can help with the ID," he said

Yes, we have a guess, a riddle still to be solved. There are researchers collecting information, and we need more people like them who are willing to lend their expertise and time to work collectively in finding the answers we need to halt the spread of this aggressive alien invader.

Welcome to New Members

We are 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.

Lia Bollmann, Augusta

Blooming Paradise Native Plants, Union

James Ware, Pottersville

Leslie Collins, Sycamore

Nel Yates, Waynesville

Cindy Bridges, Couch

Cindy Arrowood, Springfield

Yvonne Homeyer, St. Louis

Pamela Trewatha, Springfield

John White, Urbana, IL

Ozark Fire Effects Monitors, Van Buren

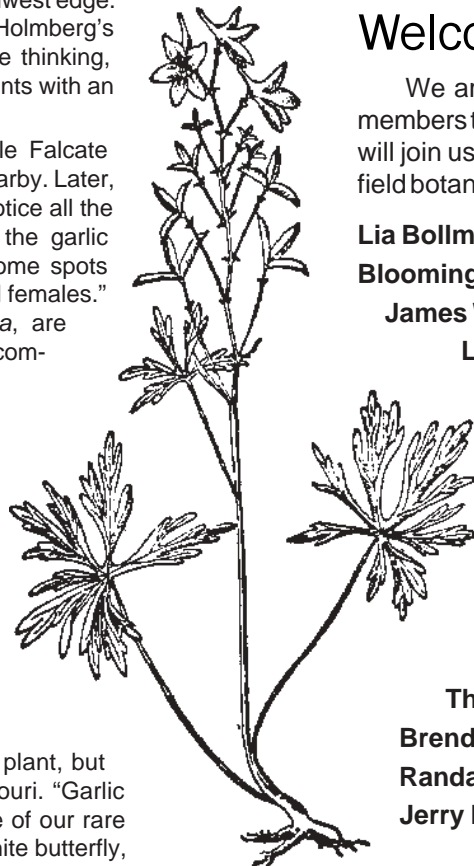
John Rickhoff, St. Louis

Theo Witsell, Little Rock, AR

Brenda Brown, Wright City

Randal Knotts, Liberty

Jerry Dean Weimer, Cabool



Natural Diversity Returning to Ozarks

By Jim Low

On an unseasonably warm, sunny day in early March, the breeze whispers through yellow prairie grasses at Tingler Prairie Natural Area, and leopard frogs chortle in a sinkhole pond nearby. A Northern harrier hawk patrols the grassy landscape and the trilling songs of meadowlarks drift across the prairie. If you close your eyes, it's easy to imagine yourself standing head-high in big bluestem and Indian grass on a fine June morning.

These sounds and sights are just what you would expect in western Missouri. They probably are not what you would expect to find in this location, in the heart of the Ozarks south of West Plains.

The nearby town's name carries a clue to why this area seems out of place in the Ozarks, a region that most Missourians associate with deep forest. Settlers named West Plains for its location in the plains west of Thomasville. The seat of Howell County government, West Plains rides the crest of the Ozark Plateau. Early explorers described this region as a mixture of prairies, glades, savannas and open woodlands.

Last year, Tingler Prairie joined an exclusive list of Missouri Natural Areas considered to have outstanding ecological significance. The 240-acre tract is a living testament to the fact that time ultimately changes everything.

The men who conducted the original land surveys in the Ozarks called this site "third-rate not fit for cultivation." A little more than a century later, a renowned naturalist pronounced it worthy of saving for posterity. The next generation of naturalists worked to keep what was left, and today a third generation has achieved the ultimate goal of permanent protection.

Tingler Prairie and the surrounding area have always been distinguished by an abundance of water seeping from the dolomite and sandstone rock just beneath the thin, cherty soil. The juxtaposition of dry and moist spots in a small area created habitat for unique plants.

The area also had a long history of frequent fires. Indians set them each year to keep the forest open. Burning prevented trees from taking over the area and allowed an unusual assemblage of herbaceous plants to thrive. What Tingler Prairie lacked in appeal for a practical, agriculture-minded surveyor it more than made up in botanical richness.

Northern rein orchid, pale green orchid and adder's-tongue, swamp milkweed, bird's-foot violet, blazing star, butterfly milkweed, yellow- and blue-eyed grass, compass plant, big and little bluestem, Indian grass and dozens more grow in open areas at Tingler Prairie.

Large and small sinkholes scattered around the area lend further variety to the landscape, creating marshy areas and even a 4.5-acre natural sinkhole pond. In these areas, buttonbush, broom sedge, water hyssop, cardinal flower, Michigan lily, blue flag, marsh St. John's wort and showy white swamp hibiscus flourish. In all, the area supports nearly 300 plant species.

No doubt the dairy and beef cows that grazed the area for the first three-quarters of the 20th century relished these botanical delicacies. But the boggy conditions that prevailed over much of the area throughout the year discouraged heavy grazing.

When botanist Julian Steyermark visited Tingler Prairie in

the 1950s, he found much of its original diversity still present. He was the first to urge that the area be protected.

Steyermark was followed by Larry Houf, a wildlife biologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation, and Don Smith, a Conservation Department field service agent. The pair took jobs in the Ozarks in the 1970s, and soon recognized why Steyermark had been so impressed with Tingler Prairie. Accordingly, they began working to realize the area's potential.

The first step was to get the land into public ownership. Don Kurz, then natural history Ozark unit chief for the Conservation Department, brought Tingler to the attention of The Nature Conservancy. TNC bought the land in 1986 and held it until conservation officials could arrange to purchase it the next year.

With the area under Conservation Department control, Houf and Smith worked to eradicate introduced plants, such as Japanese honeysuckle, multiflora rose and fescue grass, which were competing with natural vegetation. They created a trail through the area and added field-stone benches in shady spots for resting and contemplation. They also continued the work of documenting the area's biological diversity.

By the time Natural History Biologist Rhonda Rimer arrived in 1999 much of the documentation needed to gain official status as a natural area had been assembled.

"Tingler had been thought of as special for a long time," said Rimer on a recent tour of the area. "Thanks to Don and Larry's dedication, I could think about nominating the area."

Rimer first contacted the Conservation Department's Natural Areas Coordinator, Karen Kramer. Kramer had visited Tingler Prairie and knew it was a deserving candidate, so she gave Rimer the green light to pursue the nomination. This involved coordinating more survey work to document the mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and natural communities present. Rimer also worked with area manager Mike Woodring to develop a management plan that would protect the area's outstanding qualities.

They discovered that Tingler Prairie was home to 23 species of dragonflies and damselflies, not to mention dozens of snails, mussels, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Natural communities on the area included prairie swale, pond shrub swamp, freshwater marsh, woodland, prairie, bottomland forest and creek.

After the Conservation Department's Natural Areas Committee approved the nomination, it went to the State Natural Areas Committee, where representatives from the Conservation Department, the Department of Natural Resources, the USDA Forest Service, the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy gave their approval. The designation became official last year with a vote of the Conservation Commission.

Woodring's ongoing challenges at Tingler Prairie include eradicating invasive plants, increasing the area's plant diversity with native species no longer found there and varying the existing schedule of prescribed burns to encourage those plants.

Editor's Note: The above excerpt comes from an article available in its entirety at the MDC's web site: www.conservation.state.mo.us/news/, All Outdoors and Other News Releases, 2004 News Items, March Articles.



Illustration by **Paul W. Nelson**, reprinted with permission from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, originally published in the book **Spring Wildflowers of Missouri State Parks** by **Bruce Schuette**.

COLUMBINE

Aquilegia canadensis

Ranunculaceae, Buttercup family

Blooming April - July, our native columbine, *Aquilegia canadensis*, grows up to two feet tall.

The bluish green basal and stem leaves are 3-divided with deep lobes and have long petioles.

Nodding single flowers are borne atop long curved stems. The distinctive five petals are red, form elongate hollow spurs, and are tipped with a nectar gland. The five light yellow sepals are triangular, leaflike and appended between the petals.

The flower is pollinated by hummingbirds, as well as some moths and butterflies. Using their long tongues to reach the nectar, these animals brush against the numerous stamens extending from the flower and carry the pollen to the next flower they visit.

Look for this plant statewide along shaded rocky woodland slopes on bluffs and in ravines.

PLANTS IN THE PARK

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 6:30 PM–9:00 PM

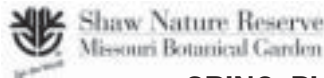
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

Submitted by Jim Wilson

On Friday evening, Dr. George Yatskievych, author of *The Flora of Missouri* and Botanist Timothy Smith from the Missouri Department of Conservation will introduce class participants to native and exotic plants of the area with a special emphasis on Forest Park, St. Louis, MO.

Saturday's session features members of the Missouri Native Plant Society and knowledgeable professional and amateur botanists with tips on field identification of wild plants. Small group walking tours will explore different Forest Park habitats.

Both novice and experienced botanists are invited. Naturalist programs are FREE, but reservations are required. To register, contact Mary Warren, Forest Park Forever and the E. Desmond Lee Collaborative, at 314-367-7275, ext. 10.



SRING PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

GRAY SUMMIT, MISSOURI

Submitted by Scott Woodbury

SEVERAL LOCAL NURSERIES will be offering the widest selection of native plants in St. Louis area, including Hamilton Seeds and Wildflowers, Missouri Wildflowers Nursery, Blooming Paradise Native Plants, Whiskey Creek Farm, Grace Hill Native Plants, Pan's Garden, Shaw Nature Reserve, Ozark Botanic Garden, Prairie Hill Farm, and Forrest Keeling Nursery.

Hundreds of varieties of native wildflowers, ferns, trees, and shrubs for home landscaping and attracting wildlife, birds and butterflies will be available. The sale will offer the showiest and hardiest native plants for sun or shade including butterfly milkweed, rose turtlehead, pale purple cone-flower, dwarf crested iris, cardinal flower, compass plant, wild phlox, maidenhair fern, bottle-brush buckeye, fringetree, and short-leaf pine—to name a few.

MISSOURI NATIVE SEED AND PLANTS of the prairie, wetland, woodland, and savanna will be available. All plants sold will be nursery propagated—not wild harvested—and proceeds will benefit Shaw Nature Reserve's Whitmire Wildflower Garden.

ADMISSION TO THE SALE IS FREE. For more information please call Shaw Nature Reserve at 636-451-3512, toll free from St. Louis area.

DIRECTIONS: Gray Summit is about 30 miles west of St. Louis. Take the Gray Summit exit #253 off I-44. Follow signs to Shaw Nature Reserve and look for signs leading to the Spring Wildflower Sale.

Dr. Wayne Morton Discusses Prairie Ecology at Osage Plains' Meeting

By David Lindell

Dr. Wayne Morton, Osceola physician and state president of the Missouri Prairie Foundation provided a timely, educational program "Growing a Prairie in Your Backyard" at the Osage Plains Chapter meeting 15 March 2004, at the Meeting Room, Henry County Courthouse. Twenty-one members were in attendance.

Dr. Morton's presentation included an excellent discussion on Prairie Ecology/Biology as well as procedures for establishing a Prairie in Your Backyard. He emphasized that homeowners must be patient during the first two years of establishment, since the perennial species do not develop as rapid as most people expect.

Grow Native! Keeps Growing

By Bonnie Chasteen,

Grow Native! Communications Specialist

Since 2000, the Grow Native! program has worked to help the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) achieve one of its key goals: protect the state's natural diversity. In the last three years, Grow Native! has grown faster than anyone could have predicted.

Recently, MDC teamed with the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA), which has the expertise and programs to provide business support to Grow Native! industry members. The Department of Agriculture's mission is to increase Missouri's agribusiness profitability and sales. This enhanced partnership between MDC and MDA will benefit Missouri's citizens, businesses and natural resources.

The Missouri Department of Conservation's director, John Hoskins, recently commented on this development. "We are truly excited about Grow Native! and the program growth that this new partnership makes possible. The Department of Conservation will continue strong financial support for the program and focus on enhancing Grow Native! through its public education and information services."

Taking a free market approach to reversing the decline in native species, Grow Native! has collaborated with industry, government agencies and nonprofits to help increase demand for native plants.

One of the program's most popular and successful tools has been its web site. At www.grownative.org, browsers can discover more than 150 Missouri native species, get MDC help, download landscape designs, and shop for Grow Native! member plants, products and services.

For more information about Grow Native! education efforts, contact Bonnie Chasteen at [<bonnie.chasteen@mdc.mo.gov>](mailto:bonnie.chasteen@mdc.mo.gov). For information about Grow Native! marketing and business development, contact Judy Allmon at [<judyallmon@earthlink.net>](mailto:judyallmon@earthlink.net).

Marlene Miller will be the representative of Osage Plains Chapter at the board meetings of the state society for one year. Her appointment was approved during the Osage Plains Chapter business meeting.

PETERMAN PROPERTY TOURED BY OSAGE PLAINS MEMBERS

The first field tour Saturday, 27 March 2004, was conducted on the Peterman property, northwest of Clinton, by six members of the Osage Plains Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society. Cool, breezy weather with very light rain showers prevailed – raincoats were appropriate.

Native plant development might have been considered slightly delayed by the cool, damp weather of late winter-early spring; however, there were a lot of plants for study. Carrol Eaglesfield led the tour attended by Jim and Dorothy Harlan, Dale Jennings, Jerry Payne and David Lindell.

These educational tours to observe native plants are open to all interested people in addition to Chapter members. Those that appreciate native plants have an excellent opportunity to enjoy an outdoor environment.

The plants observed were in early stages of development and some were in bloom. One plant in a rosette stage has not yet been identified, but Carrol Eaglesfield is working on that plant. Broadleaf plants observed included: Harbinger of Spring, Spring Beauty, Dutchman's Breeches, False Rue Anemone, Bloodroot, Virginia Bluebell, Chickweed, Dead Nettle, Henbit, Trout lilies (Dogtooth Violet), May Apple, Toothwort, Trillium, Purple Meadow Rue and Johnnie-Jump-Up.

Several woody species were observed. Those of most interest were Ohio Buckeye, Prickly Ash, and Spice Bush.

2004 Meeting & Field Botany Trips

Plan Now To Join Us For These Two Events!

• **September 10 – 12 St. Joseph.** The loess hill prairies begin just north of here, contain a number of prairie plants that are more common in the Great Plains, and are sure to produce spectacular sightings for our delight.

• **December 4, All Day Winter Board Meeting,** Dunn-Palmer Herbarium, Columbia. Plans will be made for our 2005 field trips.

Tim Smith is planning the details of this year's last adventure, and Jay Raveill is coordinating our accommodation arrangements. Stay tuned for more information.

We hope to see you on the trail this autumn.



HAWTHORN CHAPTER NEWS

Past Presidents Recall Chapter's History

By Judy Turner,
Chapter Representative

The March Chapter meeting was a time of many reminiscences. At least three past chapter presidents were present for a wonderful history lesson on the founding of our chapter.

In 1972, several members of the local Audubon Society Chapter approached the newspaper about doing an article on the annual Christmas Bird Count.

Bill Clark, who was a sports writer at the time, was given the assignment. That led him to an abiding interest in the sport of birding which in turn led to an interest in habitat and plants.

"I found myself looking down every bit as much as I was looking up," he said.

The Hawthorn Chapter was established on 27 January 1986.

Bill presented our chapter with his personal collection of papers that document the pre-founding years of effort and the first year of the fledgling chapter. The collection of papers includes letters Bill wrote to likely charter members, some of their answers, releases to local media, minutes of that organizational meeting in January of 1986, the first slate of officers, the first set of by-laws and the first seven newsletters.

The second part of Bill's program was a slide presentation of flower pictures he had taken in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Brazil, Island of Curacao, Mali and Australia. This was just a small sampling of the many slides he has taken doing what he calls his "amateur botanizing" in the 50 countries he has spent time in—the primary reason being his job as baseball scout for major league organizations. Wherever he went, he used any spare time botanizing or birding.

On the political front, the Columbia City Council approved annexation and various zoning for the Phillips Tract. It will include 489 acres of residential, commercial and office development, as well as a 130-acre city park with a 40-acre lake. No benchmarks are being established for pollution levels in the existing lake and the nearby Grindstone Creek.

The City Council also held a work session on Russell property. After some discussion this issue was tabled. It will possibly be re-visited in a couple of months.

Rock Bridge State Park was the site of our first spring hike and the first of Randall Clark's yearly spring wildflower walks.

Visit Our Websites

Robin Kennedy, University of Missouri Herbarium, Columbia, is our Society's webmaster and has done an excellent job of constructing our site on the world wide web: http://www.missouri.edu/~umo_herb/monps.

Robin is quick to add new color photographs of our state's native plants to the site for our enjoyment, and if you would like to contribute one, or several, of yours, please contact her for guidelines today at <umoherb@missouri.edu>.

CHAPTER SITES

Kansas City
www.angelfire.com/mo2/kcmonps/
Columbia
www.digmo.com/npsboco

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

OUR READERS' SITES OF INTEREST

KCWildlands: www.kcwildlands.org
GrowNative!: www.grownative.org
National Plant Conservation Campaign:
www.cnps.org/NPCC

Now Appearing on the Website...

Oh! What a photograph to behold.



Cypripedium calceolus, Yellow Lady's Slipper
Photo by Bruce Schuette. Photograph taken May, 2003,
at Cuivre River State Park, Lincoln County, Missouri.

~ The Missouri Native Plant Society Celebrates 25 Memorable Years ~

Editor's Note: Five years ago, Larry R. Morrison, with forethought and determination, wrote a history of our Society. Beginning with this issue, readers will have the opportunity to witness how an idea becomes reality. It is with great pleasure we pay homage to our past by bringing you **PART (1)** of our story.

FROM GERMINATION TO FLOWERING:

The First Twenty Years of the Missouri Native Plant Society By Larry R. Morrison

Preface

Most of the information for this history was taken directly from the Missouri Native Plant Society's publications, Missouriensis and Petal Pusher, aided by the reminiscences of a few early members. Even though little original research went into this history, I believe it does serve a useful function by bringing our early years into focus in one place; thus allowing us to take a brief look at our "institutional history" — the growth of the society and some of the issues, problems, successes, and concerns that have been dealt with. Only by knowing where we have been can we map our way to the future intelligently. Many of the issues the society is dealing with today have their origins in, or are the same issues being dealt with, twenty years ago. Thus, I hope you find this examination of the Missouri Native Plant Society's first twenty years not only interesting but also useful.

In that twenty years there have been some failures but there have also been a great many successes. From the very beginning, the major purposes of the Missouri Native Plant Society were "to promote the preservation, conservation and study of the wild plants and vegetation of Missouri, the education of the public . . . and the publication of related material." The society has made a start in all these areas. It has had some influence on legislation and/or state conservation policy. It has educated both its own members and the greater public — through its programs, publications, and field trips. It has created and maintained a professionally recognized journal and a well-read newsletter, both of which reach beyond the confines of Missouri. Essentially, any state-wide volunteer organization that survives and remains dynamic for twenty years must be meeting some critical needs of a diverse set of people.

The approach I have taken has been essentially chronological. This makes for some repetition as certain topics continually resurface, but I think such a course presents the clearest picture of developments as they occurred.

I want to thank those who took the time and effort to read and comment upon earlier drafts of this history: Nancy Morrison, Jim Bogler, Pat Grace, Sue Hollis, Thomas R. Johnson, Lynda Richards, Tim Smith, James H. Wilson, and the late John Wylie. As those of you who have read many prefaces to historical studies know, the authors nearly always thank those who helped them in various ways, and then make some sort of disclaimer to the effect: "The mistakes in this study are mine alone." I am going to break that mold; I refuse to "take the rap alone." If there are any factual errors in this history, I apologize. I should have caught such errors; however, the other readers are also "guilty" for not catching the error(s) either. Nevertheless, I hope you enjoy this account of the first twenty years of the Missouri Native Plant Society.

The formation of the Missouri Native Plant Society (MONPS) grew directly out of the "Design for Conservation," the program

that was established after the successful state initiative petition campaign for a small conservation sales tax whose funds would be used to buy land and promote an active interest in plants, non-game animals, and natural areas in Missouri.

One of the new state agencies created at that time was the Natural History Section, with John Wylie selected to head it. That section had the responsibilities for endangered species, both plant and animal, and, according to Wylie, felt "overwhelmed" by that charge. Consequently, he set out to enlist as much help as possible for the various areas of his mandate.

In terms of plants, Wylie asked James Henry Wilson, who had a Ph.D. in botany, to lead an effort for organizing a "philosophical society," or a "natural history society," or something of that nature in Missouri which could be a forum for people to exchange information and gain from one another. Wylie was familiar with the long-established California Native Plant Society, and Wilson came to Missouri from Michigan where the Michigan Botanical Club had a well-established and proud history, thus both men were cognizant of the kind of organization being considered and the contributions it could make. They also knew there were a good many professional and amateur botanists in Missouri who would be willing contributors to such a society.

In 1978, they invited a group of these people to Jefferson City for lunch to discuss the possibility of forming some kind of native plant society. Everyone in attendance supported the idea. Subsequently, in October, there was a meeting in Jefferson City of about 50 botanists to discuss the status of rare plants in Missouri. At that meeting, Wylie and Wilson offered to assemble, in the spring of 1979, an ad hoc steering committee to plan an organizational meeting for a native plant society. The following individuals were asked to serve on that committee: John Baumgardt, Lou Bottenberg, Melvin Conrad, Rick Daley, Edgar Denison, Erna Eisendrath, Keith R. Evans, Leo Gallaway, Norlan Henderson, Paul Nelson, Jim Shaw, James M. Sullivan, and Wallace Weber.

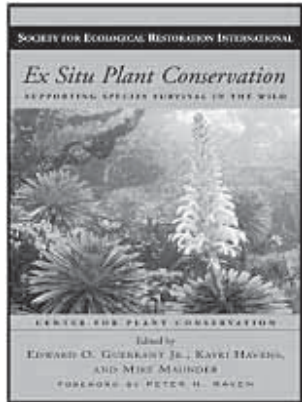
On March 30, 1979, eight of the members of this "Ad Hoc Steering Committee of the Native Plant Society" met in Jefferson City to discuss the future of such a group, and write a draft set of by-laws for the proposed organization. After a full day of deliberations, a draft copy of the by-laws was ready and a suggested slate of officers for the society nominated. This committee also agreed that the next order of business would be an organizational meeting to present these by-laws to all interested parties, establish the society formally as an organization, and conduct a general election. Paul Nelson of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Jim H. Wilson of the Missouri Department of Conservation were asked to prepare the program and arrange for a centrally located site where this organizational meeting could be held.

Nelson and Wilson selected the Coulter Science Center on the campus of Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, for the site of that meeting. On June 2, 1979, approximately 60 interested people from throughout the state, and a few from outside Missouri, met there to launch formally the Missouri Native Plant Society. After some discussion, the proposed by-laws, with a few minor changes, were adopted, and the first board members elected. Article I of those by-laws set the tone for the new organization as envisioned by its founding members, by presenting the essential reasons for the creation of MONPS.

CENTER FOR PLANT CONSERVATION ANNOUNCES PUBLICATION OF *EX SITU PLANT CONSERVATION*

By Megan A. Cotter,

Conservation Programs, Center for Plant Conservation



The Center for Plant Conservation has announced the publication of its new book, *Ex Situ Plant Conservation: Supporting Species Survival in the Wild*, edited by Edward O. Guerrant Jr., Kayri Havens and Mike Maunder, with a forward by Peter H. Raven. The book has been published as part of the “Science and Practice of Ecological Restoration” series by Island Press, and is available

on the Center for Plant Conservation’s web site and at the Missouri Botanical Garden Gate Shop Bookstore.

Faced with widespread and devastating loss of biodiversity in wild habitats, scientists have developed innovative strategies for studying and protecting targeted plant and animal species in off-site facilities such as botanic gardens and zoos. Such ex situ work is an increasingly important component of conservation and restoration efforts.

Ex Situ Plant Conservation is the first book to address integrated plant conservation strategies and to examine the scientific, technical and strategic bases of the ex situ approach. The book examines where and how ex situ investment can best support in situ conservation. It outlines the role, value and limits of ex situ conservation, as well as updates best management practices for the field. Plant conservation practitioners at botanic gardens, zoos and other conservation organizations, students and faculty in conservation biology and related fields, managers of protected areas and other public and private lands, and policymakers and members of the international community concerned with species conservation will find this book an invaluable resource.

Edward O. Guerrant, Jr. is conservation director at the Berry Botanic Garden in Portland, Oregon. Kayri Havens is director of the Institute for Plant Conservation at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Mike Maunder is director of the Fairchild Tropical Garden in Coral Gables, Florida.

This is the third professional text created by the Center for Plant Conservation. The first two were *Genetics and Conservation of Rare Plants* by Donald A. Falk and Kent E. Holsinger and *Restoring Diversity – Strategies for Reintroduction of Endangered Species* edited by Donald A. Falk, Constance I. Miller and Margaret Olwell.

The Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) is a network of America’s leading botanical institutions dedicated solely to preventing the extinction of America’s imperiled native flora. By conducting conservation programs in horticulture, research, restoration, awareness and information exchange, CPC and its network are striving to save America’s most imperiled plants from being lost forever.

To purchase this book or for more information about the Center for Plant Conservation, please visit the center’s web site at: www.centerforplantconservation.org.

WILDFLOWER IDENTIFICATION CHALLENGE

Late in 2003, Dr. Stephen Timme (T. M. Sperry Herbarium, Pittsburg State University, Kansas) established a *Wildflower Identification Challenge by E-Mail*. Currently more than 40 people from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, and Canada participate.

Each week, a photo of a wildflower is sent in jpeg format. The participant then uses whatever resources to make an ID of the photo and returns the answer to Dr. Timme.

With each photo, a brief description will be included, as well as habitat. This ID challenge is ONLY for fun and learning. It is a good way to sharpen one’s ability to recognize wildflowers.

Each month, everyone who has submitted a guess, right or wrong, has their name placed in a hat, bowl, or whatever. One name is drawn, and an 8 x 10 inch photograph of a wildflower or scenery is sent to them. Also, the name of the plant is given with the following week’s challenge.

If anyone is interested, send your full name and e-mail address to Dr. Stephen Timme at: [<sperherb@pittstate.edu>](mailto:sperherb@pittstate.edu) or [<sperryherbarium@pittstate.edu>](mailto:sperryherbarium@pittstate.edu).

INFORMATION ON JOINING MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SOCIETY DUES

(Chapter dues additional)
 Student \$5.00
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 Life \$200.00

CHAPTER DUES

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 Osage Plains \$5.00
 St. Louis \$5.00

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 - Local Chapter Field Trip Schedules & News
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