



January - February 2005

Happy New Year!

Vol. 20, No. 1

Missouri Native Plant Society

January

- 10** Mon., 7:00^{PM}
Columbia **We will see a video about a spectacular hidden universe titled "MicroCosmos."** Give Paula a call, 573-474-4225, if you have questions. Regular Hawthorn Chapter meeting held at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd.
- 20** Thurs., 7:00^{PM}
Kansas City **Field trips for 2005 will be scheduled,** and we will complete our election. Bring your new plant books and magazines for us to pass around. Everyone is welcome at this meeting! Give Dan Rice a call, 816-461-0206, if you have any questions. Regular Chapter meeting held at the Discovery Center, 4750 Troost, between KFC and Brush Creek.
- 26** Wed., 7:30^{PM}
St. Louis **Barbara Perry Lawton will present "Hibiscuses: It All Began with Dorothy Lamour."** Barbara will have copies of her recent book on the genus *Hibiscus* to sell and sign. Regular Chapter meeting held at Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood (off Geyer Road, between Watson and Big Bend).
- 27** Thurs., 11:30^{AM}
Columbia **Hawthorn Chapter Board meeting at the Uprise Bakery,** 816 Broadway. All are invited.

February

- 1** **Due date for material for March–April *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>.
- 14** Mon., 7:00^{PM}
Columbia **A joint MONPS/Wild Ones Plant Propagation Workshop led by Ann Wakeman.** Regular Hawthorn Chapter meeting held at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd.
- 15** Tues.
West Plains **Ozarks Native Plant Society** regular Chapter meeting. Contact Pam French at 417-255-9561 Ext. 222 (w), or <Patricia.French@mdc.mo.gov> for details.
- 21** Mon., 7:00^{PM}
Clinton **Norval Netsch, president of the Missouri Nut Growers, will present "Working with the Fish & Game Commission of Alaska."** Regular Osage Plains Chapter meeting held at the Basement Meeting Room, Henry County Courthouse. All interested people are encouraged to attend—refreshments will be provided.
- 23** Wed., 7:30^{PM}
St. Louis **Don Kurz will present "Just Across the River—Wildflowers of Illinois."** Don will have copies of his books to sell and sign, including his just released *Illinois Wildflowers*. Regular Chapter meeting held at Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood (off Geyer Road, between Watson and Big Bend).

Recognizing Excellence in Performance! Committee Ready to Receive Nominations

By Jack H. Harris,
Awards Committee Chair



President Kathy Thiele has appointed a 2005 Awards Committee. The Committee is charged to receive nominations from members of the Society and to render final award designations. Awards will be conferred periodically (normally, not more than annually) based solely on merit and are usually presented at the June Annual Meeting.

Recipients need not be members of the Society.

Nominations may be made for five different awards as follows:

1. **Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education Award:** To be awarded to an individual, who through teaching, writing, or other activity, has conveyed to others a significant appreciation and knowledge of Missouri's native flora.

2. **Arthur Christ Research Award:** To be awarded to an individual who has made a significant contribution toward furthering the knowledge of Missouri flora.

3. **Plant Stewardship Award:** To be awarded to an individual or organization for the preservation of important elements of Missouri's flora through purchase, registry, and/or management practice.

4. **The John E. Wylie Award:** To recognize individuals who have provided exceptional service to the Society.

5. **Julian A. Steyermark Award:** The Society's highest award to be presented to an individual, who has made outstanding contributions to any and all aspects of Missouri botany. This award is given as merited for superior achievement.

The Awards Committee will consider all nominations received by April 1, 2005.

Nominations must be written (letter or e-mail) and must contain the full name of the nominee, the name of the nominator, and set forth the contributions of the individual or organization that merits honoring by the Society.

Nominations may be sent to Jack H. Harris, at <jahar@mac.com> (or see address on back page), or Larry Morrison at <Larry.Morrison@scott.af.mil>.

If you know of a name and would like assistance in preparing a nomination, the committee will be happy to provide advice and assistance.

Help us honor a deserving candidate by sending in an award nomination today!

Mark your calendars NOW!

2005 Meeting & Field Trips

Plan on joining your fellow native plant enthusiasts for some exciting field botany in these rich botanical areas.

• **May 20, 21 & 22:** Spring Field Botany Trip and Board Meeting to Pere Marquette, Illinois, and joint meeting with the Illinois Native Plant Society. The Illinois Native Plant Society is planning a silent auction in conjunction with the banquet, and we are asking for donations—plant related books, seeds, botanical artwork, potted plants—to be auctioned. Items can be brought the day of the auction, but please contact George Yatskievych (see back cover) and let him know what items you will be donating.

• **June 24, 25 & 26:** Summer Field Trip, Annual Meeting and Board Meeting to the Kirksville Area. We will visit a local prairie and possibly a savanna restoration site.

• **September 16, 17 & 18:** Fall Field Botany Trip and Board Meeting to Prairie State Park and vicinity. Visits to south-west Missouri prairies where we will see warm-season grasses and late-blooming composites.

• **December 3:** Winter Board Meeting at the University of Missouri Dunn-Palmer Herbarium, Columbia.

Tim Smith will be planning the specifics of these adventures in the coming months so stay tuned for more details.

Society Seeks to Fill Positions

By Betty Walters
Nominating Committee Chair

Our Society will be conducting elections between now and the annual meeting in June to fill the open positions of president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and two board members, whose terms will expire June 30, 2005.

If you are interested in being a candidate for an open position, or would like to nominate someone to fill a position, please contact Betty Walters, (see back cover), or committee member Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, Hawthorn Chapter, at <navarreten@missouri.edu> by January 30, 2005.

A slate of candidates will be published in the next edition of the *Petal Pusher*. Members will have at least 20 additional days following that publication to nominate alternate candidates. (See page 6, Article VII in the *Petal Pusher*, Vol.15, No.1.)

Robin Kennedy will Chair the Ballot Committee for this election, and Pam Haverland and Jim Whitley will serve on the committee.

Please take this opportunity to offer your suggestions for our future leadership.

Petals & Wings

Betty Walters, Editor



What is a native plant enthusiast to do when the winter doldrums hit?

If one enjoys gardening for butterflies, you do *not* want to prune perennials, rake up the leaves, or till the soil. Many of Missouri's spring emerging butterflies over winter as eggs, larvae, or pupae. Cleaning your garden can—literally—send many species of the coming year's population out with your trash. Read more timely advice on this topic in Tom Terrific's free on-line *Butterfly Gardening Ezine* [<http://www.butterflygardening.org>], December 2004.

If cleaning the garden is off limits, then, what can one do? Winter botany, of course!

The winter months provide an excellent opportunity to study Missouri's native trees and learn to identify them by bark colors and patterns, leaf and bundle scars, buds and twigs, and that is just what 36 St. Louis area residents learned more about on December 11TH. Jim Wilson, E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of Experiential and Family Education University of Missouri-St. Louis, hosted the free Forest Park Forever and Missouri Department of Conservation Winter Botany workshop at Forest Park's Learning Lab of the Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center. George Yatskievych, MDC Flora of Missouri Project, and Tim Smith, MDC botanist, expertly guided participants through the essential plant characteristics useful for identification.

Attendees utilized the Missouri Department of Conservation's publication *A Key to Missouri Trees in Winter, an Identification Guide* (Clibum & Klomps) to key out and identify the ample supply of provided twigs from 13 tree species, and an afternoon hike through Kennedy Woods re-enforced the observation skills learned in the morning session.

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.

L.J. Ockerstrom,
Liberty

Ray Poninski,
St. Peters

Yoelit Hiebert, St.
Louis



Other useful references for winter botany are Don Kurz's *Shrubs and Woody Vines of Missouri* (MDC) and *Trees of Missouri* (MDC). *A Guide to Wildflowers in Winter: Herbaceous Plants of Northeastern North America* (Carol Levine, Dick Rauh and Samuel Ristich, Yale University Press) provides superior illustrations. For help with terminology, *Plant Identification Terminology, an Illustrated Glossary* 2ND edition (Harris and Harris, Spring Lake Publishing) is a must have.

Of course, if one of your New Year's resolutions included learning more about plants, start preparing to earn the Society's badge of achievement, Wear the Conflower, now. Patch Committee Chair Judy Turner writes, "The Coneflower program revisions have been completed and approved by the State Board."

Judy encourages all members to "start to work today earning *your* MONPS Coneflower Badge of Achievement! Begin to explore the wonderful world of the Missouri natives—perennials, trees, shrubs, herbs, ferns, vines and grasses. Learn about plant families, plants of concern, edibles and organizations that manage our public lands. Be the first in your local MONPS chapter to earn the Badge!"

Look for the new program information our Webmaster Robin Kennedy has added to our site at [www.missouri.edu/~umo_herb/monps].

Winter doldrums? No way! Put on those wool socks, flannel-lined jeans, insulated field jacket, hat and gloves, pack the guide books, and put some fun back in your day.

MONPS Chapter Websites

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

READER'S SITES OF INTEREST

KCWildlands: www.kcwildlands.org

GrowNative!: www.grownative.org

National Plant Conservation Campaign:

www.cnps.org/NPCC

Easyliving Native Perennial Wildflowers:

<http://www.easywildflowers.com>

Frost Flower Alert

By Jack Harris with Photos By Pat Harris

The seasonal opportunity is here for anyone to extend the calendar time period when one can continue their enjoyment of the curious antics of nature. As of 1 December 2004, we have had two teasers of coming attractions.

On Thanksgiving Day with temperatures at about 30-31 degrees, a few small blobs of frost flowers were seen barely peeking out from along the stems of *Verbesina virginica* (White crownbeard) and *Cunila origanoides* (Dittany).

On 1 December at about 27 degrees, we had a much more substantial display, but still only a sample of what is possible, on both species of plants.



Frost flowers on *Verbesina virginica*, White crownbeard, in the Harris' backyard during the morning of December 1st.

Participation rules are simple. (1) Locate areas where the two species of plants noted above occur. (2) On days when the temperature is preferably about 24 degrees or lower, get up early (you must be there before the sun zaps and vaporizes the object of your search) and proceed to that location. (3) Take your camera and record the products of nature's extrusion technology demonstration. (4) Optional: plant those species in your yard—saves travel time.

Look for a display of sheer, curly, twisted, ribbons of glistening ice emerging from along the bases of the stems of Dittany and White crownbeard. These are the most common producing plants in the St. Louis area.

The phenomenon is also reported on *Helianthemum canadense* (Rockrose), *Pluchea camphorata* (Camphor weed) and a few other species. With a good supply of moisture available, the plants will repeat the production of frost flowers a limited, and diminishing, number of times.

Plan ahead—mark your calendar for next year—and be there at the first hard freeze. This entertaining service brought to you by members of our native plant community. Enjoy!

Native Landscapes Are One Hot Trend

February 17: Grow Native! Connecting the Heartland Conference, "Ecology, Culture, Economics," at the Adams' Pointe Conference Center, Blue Springs, Missouri.

Native landscapes are one of the hottest trends in residential and commercial landscapes. Learn how to use Missouri's native plants to create working landscapes with 'green' techniques, restore habitat and redefine your bottom line.

Keynote by Darrel Morrison, FASLA, nationally recognized for his unique native landscape designs, followed by three distinct tracks of interactive breakout sessions.



Conference topics have application for both professionals and gardening enthusiasts and are open to all.

For more information and a registration application, visit [www.grownnative.org].

Illinois Now Has A Great Wildflower Book

By Kathy Thiele

I confess. I'm a book nut. So when Don Kurz offered to send me a copy of his new book to review for the *Petal Pusher*, I got a tingly rush of adrenaline. I already own three of his books, *Shrubs and Woody Vines of Missouri* (MDC 1997), *Trees of Missouri* (MDC 2003) and *Ozark Wildflowers* (Falcon Publishing 1999). They aren't just for decoration on my shelves either. I refer to them on a regular basis, and one, *Ozark Wildflowers*, is frequently in my fanny pack on field trips.

I found *Illinois Wildflowers* (Cloudland.net Publishing) to be similar in format to Don's *Ozark Wildflowers*. It is a field guide arranged by color and then, by blooming time. It provides plant descriptions, blooming times, habitat/range and remarks on every thing from what each plant is used for to where it's from. The photographs are great, as usual, but familiar. In fact, when I compared it to his *Ozark Wildflowers*, I found many of the photos are exactly the same. After all, Missouri's flora is pretty similar to that of Illinois'. Much of the text is the same as well, only tweaked to fit Illinois.



There are a few differences though. I was pleased to find some new flower faces such as Beech drops (*Epifagus virginiana*) and Blue curls (*Trichostema dichotomum*) I hadn't seen before in Dons' or any other Missouri field guide. I was also pleased with the addition of the color-coded thumb index down the side making it a lot faster to find the flower I'm looking for. Not sure I should look at books that cross state lines though. I'm already confounded by the changing scientific binomials in Missouri so of course, most of the scientific names are from a different source, Mohlenbrock's *Vascular Flora of Illinois* (2002).

Why would a Missourian, who already owns so many wildflower books, want another one? Well, I guess I just can't help myself. We always need one more plant book with pictures, don't we? As for the people in Illinois—Congratulations! You now have a great wildflower book of your own!

Illinois Wildflowers by Don Kurz lists for \$22.95 and can be purchased at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Shaw Nature Reserve, Powder Valley Nature Center, Busch CA, Barnes and Noble, or at [<http://www.cloudland.net/>].

Ozark Regional Land Trust's Volunteer Stewardship Days

By Andy Thomas

January 8-9, Early Farm: Glade Restoration

January 22, Wood's Prairie: Brush clearing, fence removal

February 5-6, Early Farm: Glade Restoration

March 5, Wood's Prairie: Brush clearing, fence removal

April 9, Sarcoxie Cave and Spring: Weeding, wildflower planting

April 23, Amy's Woods: Landscaping, forest improvement

At the Early Farm, several acres of fragile, high-quality glades along the pristine Huzzah Creek have become overgrown with cedar trees. The cedars need to be removed in order to allow the natural glade plants and animals a chance to thrive.

In order for us to make good progress during our first year of working at the Early Farm, we are setting aside two entire weekends where we will work both Saturday and Sunday cutting, piling, and burning up cedars (if anyone would rather haul off the cut cedar trees to use, please contact us). Overnight accommodations (indoor and out) may be available for those who wish to help on both days. For further information about Early Farm, contact Scott Woodbury at 314-306-5128.

We have made tremendous progress at Woods Prairie over the last few years in restoring the prairie to its full glory and have recently submitted a grant proposal to fund the restoration of the fescue area on the north side. If we receive the grant, we will focus our efforts this winter on removing the interior fence in preparation for the complete restoration of the entire 40-acre prairie. We will also continue removing weedy trees and brush around the perimeter of the prairie. If we make good progress this winter, we may be able to get the entire prairie completely restored within another two years.

At Sarcoxie Cave and Spring we will continue our slow but steady restoration of the cave/spring/bluff area to its natural Ozark appearance. We will continue removing weeds and weedy brush and will plant wildflowers in the area.

The Amy's Woods restoration of the historic and unique cabin is complete. Now, we need to focus our energies on re-landscaping the area around the cabin to an appropriate historic landscape, removing invasive weeds and restoring the natural vegetation among the magnificent pine trees.

For additional information about Stewardship Days, contact Andy Thomas at 417-466-2148.

How to Find a Hornwort—Everywhere

By Nels Holmberg

Hornworts are seldom seen and never heard. To find hornworts one must have good tick repellent and be near-sighted. Having both helps one to get down, nose very close to the ground, and crawl along searching. Then, all you need is to be in the right habitat at the right time of the year.

Hornworts are at the base of the plant family tree along with mosses and liverworts. They can look a lot like thalose liverworts, but have a sporophyte that is horn-like, emerging from a cup-like structure as opposed to a liverwort's umbrella-like fruiting structure. Actually, without good magnification, they look more like threads than horns. We see mosses everywhere, liverworts once in a while, and hornworts never. The most common hornwort, *Anthoceros laevis* ssp. *carolinianus*, is known only from 18 of Missouri's 114 counties.

I was interested in finding hornworts because hornworts sounded so intriguing; so, well, hornish. {*Editor's Note: Spelling changed to conform to family values.*} While taking Steve Timme's Bryophyte workshop, we studied a herbarium specimen, sparking anew the interest. Soon afterwards, Steve wrote that he was finding lots of a hornwort in undisturbed and unburned pastures and prairies in Kansas. Out I went to look under the neighbor's power line, as it seemed a close habitat match. It was discouragingly thick on this hot May day. So instead, I looked at the bare ground in the shade of our overgrazed pasture. On hands and knees, I inspected scattered mosses, a few liverworts, and ignored the dark green patches of algae. Then, I realized one of the dark green patches had a thread sticking up out of it. It was a hornwort!

I collected several of the small plants and proudly presented the find to Carl Darigo for identification. Carl reported yes, it was a hornwort, but he needed mature plants to tell which one. Identification is based on the color and the spine length of the mature spores. The horn slits open length-wise when mature, so the search was on for split hairs.

Two weeks later more plants were found, this time on dirt paths through a wooded part of Victoria Glade, and with spit horns. After checking out more Conservation Areas and finding the *Anthoceros* in the same habitat at each, a search pattern took shape.

During the middle of June, hike a woodland path of any Conservation Area looking for small, bare, moist areas in and along the path that have a scattering of mosses and liverworts. That is where the dark patches of hornwort will be found, and they are most often found growing with two mosses, *Physcomitrium pyriforme* (Urn moss) and *Ditrichum* sp., and two liverworts, *Asterella tenella* and *Fossombronia brasiliensis*.

My search pattern seemed to be clear and concise, but in September, the hornwort showed up on a crayfish mound and rotten log along a small stream flowing under a road through a culvert. In October, it was found on the sandstone cliffs at Pickle Spring Natural Area and on the mud bank of the creek through Castlewood State Park. Then, in November, it was spotted on the sides of an erosion ditch along the road in Robertsville State Park. All had mature spores.

So now, *Anthoceros laevis* ssp. *carolinianus* is known in five new counties and could probably be found in every county in Missouri—so much for this plant having a limited habitat and growing season!

MONPS Welcomes Our Newest Chapter

Ozarks Native Plant Society

By Pat French, Chapter Representative

The Ozarks Native Plant Society Chapter held our first meeting in July 2003. We have approximately 23 members. We hold regular chapter meetings bi-monthly, and our next meeting is February 15th. We elected officers in November, and they are as follows:

President - Ellen Kaufman

Vice President - Rick Scarlett

Secretary - Betty Queen

Treasurer - Adelle Voss

Board Representative - Patricia French

We have had several field trips such as a plant identification trip on North Fork River and visits to Azalea Trail in Oregon County and Hamilton Seed. We have an educational presentation at each meeting, such as winter bark/tree identification, plant identification, salve making/wild foods and many others. We have several field trips and presentations planned for 2005.

If you live in the Ozarks region and are interested in attending one of our meetings, please contact Pat at <Patricia.French@mdc.mo.gov>.



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**.

Claytonia virginica, Spring beauty

During the coming months, readers will be treated to the beauty and wonder of a host of botanical illustrations by Paul Nelson such as this one, his Spring beauty.

Blooming in February through May, *Claytonia* is the most widely distributed early spring flower. Its five petal blooms are white or pink with a distinct pink veining. Leaves are dark green, fleshy, narrow lanceolate, one to two basal and one opposite pair on the stems. The rounded corm was eaten by the Native Americans.

Look for this plant statewide in suburban lawns, fields and open woods.

We extend our gratitude to Bruce Schuette, Park Naturalist of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Cuivre River State Park and author of the *Spring Wildflowers of Missouri State Parks*, who secured the Department's permission to republish these works in our Society's newsletter.

Kansas City Chapter

Exhibits at English Park Water Festival

By Daniel Rice, Chapter Representative

On October 8 and 9, we participated in the Week of Water Festival at English Park on the banks of the Missouri River in Parkville, MO. We shared an exhibit there with Grow Native! and Longview Gardens. The first day brought about 500 students to learn how water is important to us, and how we can protect our water supply. Day 2 brought more adults and families interested in plants and water usage. The entire event was fun and educational.

Our second event was a field trip to Maple Woods Conservation Area on October 16. It was a little early for the maples to be turning color, but many Adam and Eve Orchid leaves, and lots of ripe persimmons were found (and consumed).

The first event in November was a field trip to the rare book room at the Linda Hall Library of Science and Technology. Bruce Bradley, curator of the rare book room, showed off many of his treasures. Several were very interesting—especially the early woodcuts of plant parts analogous to human body parts; yet the best one wasn't really a botanical book, but one about mathematics and astronomy. It is called the *Rheticus* after its author, a student of Copernicus. In fact, it was the publication and acceptance of the 78-page book that prompted Copernicus to complete and publish his work. The book is a new acquisition of the library, and was a rare treat to see.

The second November event was our meeting on the 18th. Helene Miller, MO Department of Conservation urban forester, spoke about the proper planting and care of trees in the urban setting. Lots of helpful tips were given, especially about the planting depth of trees. Apparently, many nurseries have been planting trees too deep, causing the roots to actually encircle the trunk and strangle the tree.

Itch Mite Reported in Missouri

Did you read or hear about the "mystery bites" at a Pittsburg State football game in August 2004? Reports of the same bites were made in the St. Louis area, and Henry, Pulaski and Cole Counties, MO, in August and late September, as well.

The culprit has been identified as *Pyemotes*—commonly known as an itch mite—by Kansas State University Research and Extension entomologists Alberto Broce, Ludek Zurek and Robert Brown in cooperation with another university and several public health organizations.

Read more about the mite and learn how to take proper precautions at: [<http://lancaster.unl.edu/nebline/2004/novdec04/page07.pdf>]; [<http://faculty.pittstate.edu/~dgordon/MysteryBites/MysteryBitesTest.html>]; [http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/news/sty/2004/itch_mite102204.htm].

Hawthorn Chapter

Assists Columbia Parks; Exhibits at 2nd Annual Chestnut Roast

By Judy Turner, Chapter Representative

Our chapter continued its busy Fall pace. Early in the month of October, we assisted Columbia Parks and Recreation with additional shrub/bush honeysuckle clearing in Grindstone Nature Area. On the 16th we participated in the 2nd Annual Chestnut Roast sponsored by the University of Missouri Center for Agroforestry, Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center at New Franklin, MO. Because of the large number of groups attending, we chose to setup our plants, books, and information outside the one main tent. As a result most of the over 900 people who came to the event came to see us first! Although the wind was excessive at times, our booth and the educational presentations, walking tours of the research plots, cooking demonstration, Missouri foods, and of course, roasted chestnuts were all successful. The very next day many of our chapter members charged off to Westphalia and the Painted Rock State Forest. The views from the bluff trail were spectacular, and there were interesting finds of plants and pictographs among the dolomite cliffs.

Our regular November chapter meeting featured a presentation by Brad Jacobs, MDC wildlife ecologist, on the relationship between birds and their native habitats. In addition to some great slides, Brad mentioned a good book on wildlife food habits (a Dover re-print). He specifically discussed the ongoing plant inventory project at MU's Bradford Farms which also documents birds using native plant species. Another presentation at the meeting was given by a new owner/developer attempting to develop his 17 acres on the northern edge of town into a conservation community, including a two acre remnant prairie, hiking trails, and creeks within clustered single family homes, townhouses, and studio apartments. It appears to be a worthy goal and is supported by the Columbia Smart Growth Coalition. Other chapter activities included updating our chapter archives at the State Historical Society and our annual chapter wreath workshop—which was great, as usual!

Our Annual December Chapter Christmas party was held at the home of Chapter President Nadia Navarrete-Tindall and husband Randy. A merry time was had by all!

Osage Plains Chapter

Archaeology & Forestry Highlight Educational Regular Meetings

Submitted By David Lindell; Minutes By Ruth Maynhart

"Mineral Springs of Cedar County" was presented by Dr. Peter Nichols on October 18 at the Osage Plains Chapter meeting. Dr. Nichols, a professional archaeologist, is a naturalist and historian. His book, *Let the Faces Speak*, was reviewed in the March 2004 issue of *The Ozarks Mountaineer*. He has taught archaeology as a faculty member at both Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, and the University of Texas, Austin. Presently, he and his family live in the Sac River watershed north of Stockton.

Dr. Nichols provided an interesting account (with slides of early photographs and current slides of locations) of the discovery of several mineral springs, the publicity of their apparent beneficial influence on the health of those that frequented these locations, building of facilities, hotels, transportation facilities, apparent improvement of health of many individuals, and eventually, the decline and disappearance of these health facilities associated with mineral springs.

A profession, that began as temporary employment, and developed into 40 years and seven job titles, was discussed by Jim Harlan, retired, Missouri Department of Conservation on November 15 at the Osage Plains Chapter meeting.

Jim presented a real-life situation of successful accomplishments and challenges experienced in his professional career (with slides). His temporary employment began in fire control, March 1949 in the Ozarks, and he advanced through assigned positions in forestry management at various locations in several districts for the MDC.

In 1950, Jim was assigned to forest management at the Dickinson Tower. By August 1951, he was transferred to Vienna as office manager; then, in 1956, he was transferred to Salem and put in charge of four towers.

Jim reported that at least 33% of the Ozark forest burned in 1940. During the 1940s and 1950s, origin of fires were grouped under these categories: 48% arson, 40% burning trash, 6% smokers, 2% campers, 1% railroads and 0.1% lightning. The year 1958-59 was the worst fire season. Some of the questionable fires were probably started with the idea that ticks would be killed, or grass growth would be influenced.

Jim was also involved in land purchases for wildlife and forestry management and took great pleasure in inspecting and planning many of the development projects for public use areas, such as the present day Indian Trails and Reservations.

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, near Mound City, MO

President Kathy Thiele (KT), 12 board members and five guests met at the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, near Mound City, MO. Quorum assessment okay. Pat Harris was appointed as Recording Secretary.

Approval of Minutes: 12 June 2004, West Plains, MO Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report—Bob Siemer (report on file with Secretary). Balance of the Society's accounts is \$12,227.37. Balance in the Hudson Fund is \$13,379.65. The Chapter's dues renewal reimbursements were handed out.

Publications & Media: *Missouriensis*—George Yatskievych (GY) reported he has had good feedback on "A Vegetative Key to the *Muhlenbergia* Species of Missouri" in latest issue and the "Prairie Restoration Flora of the St. Louis Region of Illinois and Missouri" which will be used as a text in the wetlands class at St. Louis Community College-Meramec this fall.

MONPS Website—Robin Kennedy (RK) reported that the site is up-to-date. E-mail contacts for the Chapters have been added.

Committees & Task Forces: Membership—Ann Earley (AE) reported the Society has 18 new members since the last meeting. There are 390 paid members, with an additional 37 names on our mailing list. So far, 154 members have not renewed. We now have three more life members: Doug Ladd (past president of MONPS), Becky Erickson and Marlene Miller.

Nominating Committee/Ballot Committee/Awards Committee chairs are needed:

Nominating Committee—Kathy Thiele will appoint or chair herself;

Ballot Committee—Robin Kennedy;

Awards Committee—Jack Harris.

Chapter Reports & Chapter Follow-up Review: Chapter Reports were given by Judy Taylor for the Hawthorn, Dan Rice for Kansas City, Nels Holmberg for St. Louis, and Kathy Thiele read a report from Osage Plains. (reports on file with Secretary).

Jefferson City Chapter—Kathy Thiele reported that she sent a certified letter to past president, Tom Shulz of the JC Chapter, that they were on probation. No Representative attended this meeting. KT said she would request that all assets be turned over to the Society. It was MSC Robin Kennedy, John Oliver that we dissolve the Jefferson City Chapter. Kathy will send a letter apprising Tom Shulz of the action.

Society Business: Policy record/Green Book—Kathy Thiele will research the minutes of previous meetings and start the Green Book. Pat will send all of the minutes she has to KT. Once the Book has been completed, the Secretary will be responsible for keeping it up-to-date and bringing it to all meetings of the Board.

Fundraiser/T-shirts—Sue Hollis (SH) reported that 200 more T-shirts (Wildflowers have all the anthers) have been printed. The Society owns the T-shirts; the Chapters need to buy them from the Society. In the St. Louis Chapter, all T-shirts with old designs are gone. They still have about 70 bandanas and 20 pins that are Society owned.

MONPS Patches—Judy Taylor said they proposed some changes in the requirements for earning the patch.

Society Brochures—Sue Hollis said she has 1,000 brochures. They printed 500 extra.

Miscellaneous Announcements: December 4, 2004 meeting at the Dunn-Palmer Herbarium 9:00-4:00 is confirmed.

Grass ID Workshop—Paul McKenzie reported on the workshop held in Arkansas. There were 40 people attending. He won't need reimbursement. The people in Arkansas paid for his hotel room, and his per diem covered his gas. They sold four copies of the *Flora of Missouri* Part 1, by George Yatskievych and seven copies of *The Grasses of Missouri*, by Clair L. Kucera, and raised \$409.50 which was given to the Hawthorn Chapter as the books came from that Chapter's inventory.

Appreciation—To Jay Raveill for making arrangements for Friday evenings speaker and lodging information. Thanks to Paul McKenzie for leading us on Saturday's field trip.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45^{PM}.

Present at meeting:

Kathy Thiele	Jay Raveill	Bob Siemer
Paul McKenzie	Robin Kennedy	John Oliver
Max Towler	Ann Earley	Judy Turner
Daniel Rice	Marie Frye	Pat Harris
Jack Harris	Ed O'Donnell	
George Yatskievych	Nels Holmberg	

Respectfully Submitted By:

Pat Harris, Appointed Recording Secretary

INFORMATION ON JOINING MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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