



# Missouri Native Plant Society

## September

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|--------------|---|--|
| <b>TBA</b>   | <b>TBA</b><br>Clinton                             | <b>Osage Plains Chapter field trip to see the fall flora</b> of Missouri's prairie. Contact Jim and Dorothy Harlan at <Jdharlan@socket.com> for more details.  |
| <b>11</b>    | <b>Mon., 7:00<sup>P.M.</sup></b><br>Columbia      | <b>George Yatskievych, from the Missouri Botanical Garden</b> , will present "Reflections on the Flora of Missouri" at the Hawthorn Chapter regular meeting, Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Contact Paula Peters at 573-474-4225 for more information.   |
| <b>16</b>    | <b>Sat.</b><br>Columbia                           | <b>Hawthorn Chapter Evening Walk</b> in Rocheport and picnic on Marge McDermott's deck. Contact Paula Peters at 573-474-4225 for more information.   |
| <b>16</b>    | <b>Sat., 9:00<sup>A.M.</sup></b><br>Kansas City   | <b>Kansas City Field trip to Hidden Valley</b> to see Goldie's ferns, persimmons and coral root orchids. From I-435 in Missouri, take Parvin Road exit and turn left/west onto Parvin Road. Turn left/south onto Bennington Road and then right/west onto Russell Road. The parking lot is a couple of blocks.   |
| <b>21</b>    | <b>Thurs., 7:00<sup>P.M.</sup></b><br>Kansas City | <b>Regular Kansas City Chapter meeting</b> at the Discovery Center, between KFC and Brush Creek at 4750 Troost, Kansas City, MO. Program to be announced.  |
| <b>22-24</b> | <b>Fri.-Sun.</b>                                  | <b>State Board field trips and meeting, Dexter, MO (see Page 5 for details).</b>   |
| <b>23</b>    | <b>Sat., 5:00<sup>P.M.</sup></b><br>Clinton       | <b>Osage Plains Chapter meeting and carry-in dinner</b> at Bud and Carol Henzlik's home. Enjoy food, conversation and antiques. Contact Emily Horner 660-885-6981 for more details.  |
| <b>27</b>    | <b>Wed., 7:30<sup>P.M.</sup></b><br>St. Louis     | <b>Program and mini-workshop by George Yatskievych and Nels Holmberg</b> on "Key Features for Identification of Plants in the Sunflower Family" at the regular St. Louis Chapter meeting, Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, St. Louis, 11715 Cragwold Drive, Kirkwood (off Geyer between Watson and Big Bend, just North of bridge over I-44). |
| <b>30</b>    | <b>Sat., 9:00<sup>A.M.</sup></b><br>St. Louis     | <b>St. Louis Chapter field trip</b> in conjunction with the MONPS-sponsored Master Naturalists class at St. Louis Community College-Meramec on wetlands. Meet at 9:00 <sup>A.M.</sup> at the main parking lot at Marais Temps Claire Conservation Area (St. Charles County). Take Hwy 94 N to Hwy H, then E to Island Road.                            |

October Calendar on Page 2



## October

- 1 **Deadline for the November-December *Petal Pusher*.** Please send information, articles, photographs and graphics to Betty Walters, MONPS Newsletter Editor, <bettyluvsinsects@yahoo.com> by this date.
- 1 **Sun.** **Fall wreath making and Hawthorn Chapter cookout** with the Ellifrits on Cedar Creek. Columbia Contact Paula Peters at 573-474-4225 for more information.
- 14 **Sat., 9:00<sup>A.M.</sup>** **Kansas City Field trip to Rocky Point Glade** to view restoration work. Current plans for Kansas City this glade include the release of collard lizards onto the site. Contact Dan Rice at <drice95875@aol.com>.
- 14 **Sat., 10:00<sup>A.M.</sup>** **Chestnut Festival at Franklin Farm** until 4:00<sup>P.M.</sup>. Please plan to help with the Hawthorn Columbia Chapter booth. Contact Paula Peters at 573-474-4225 for more information.
- 15 **Sun.** **Painted Rock Hike and Hawthorn Chapter lunch** at a local Winery. For more information Columbia contact Paula Peters at 573-474-4225.
- 16 **Mon., 7:00<sup>P.M.</sup>** **Ann Huesemann will present “An Artist’s Photographic Appreciation of Native Plants”** Clinton at the Osage Plains Chapter regular meeting, Missouri Department of Conservation, Clinton Office. Refreshments will be served. Contact Emily Horner 660-885-6981 for more details.
- 25 **Wed., 7:30<sup>P.M.</sup>** **Annual St. Louis Chapter Member’s Night slide show.** Share your slides or other St. Louis photographs from trips taken during the year. Photos of mystery plants are also welcome. Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center, St. Louis, 11715 Cragwold Drive, Kirkwood (off Geyer between Watson and Big Bend, just North of bridge over I-44).

## Gift Benefits the Ozark Underground Laboratory

By Rex Hill, President

Earlier this year, one of our members suggested a place where a small gift from our Society could be of benefit to a very worthwhile project in our state. Many of you are familiar with the efforts of Tom and Cathy Aley as students, educators, and preservationists of Missouri’s karst systems as related to groundwater quality and its interaction with surface activities. Their Ozark Underground Laboratory in southern Missouri has been in the forefront of studies, not only in our state, but many others in the United States and in a number of foreign countries. I encourage you to visit their website to learn more at [<http://www.ozarkundergroundlab.com/>]

Many of their activities focus on the education of younger generations about issues vital to the quality of our natural systems. Recently, they purchased land adjacent to their Tumbling Creek Cave, which serves as a laboratory for observation and understanding of issues related to groundwater systems. This nearby property had suffered heavy abuse from native vegetation clearing and overgrazing and was negatively impacting the water quality of the cave. To date, they have worked on restoration of riparian corridors to reduce erosion sediment that enters the groundwater system and ultimately, the cave.

The Tumbling Creek Cave Ecosystem is on the Missouri Department of Conservation list of 33 Conservation Opportunity Areas in the state. To learn more about this area and the others in the state, please visit: [<http://www.mdc.mo.gov/nathis/cws/coa/-Area28>].

To assist Tom and Cathy in their efforts, the MONPS Board, at the June 2006 meeting, voted to make a donation of \$400.00

to aid in the purchase of native plant seed for conversion of old pasture to native prairie vegetation. The gift has been made, and Tom tells me the seed will probably be purchased from Hamilton Seed, because of their close proximity. In the Board’s view, the support of this project fit well with our purpose.

## Society Honors Alberici Construction

By Kevin Bley, Publicity Chair

The Missouri Native Plant Society honored Alberici Construction for their use and promotion of native plants. MONPS member Kevin Bley presented the award to Chairman John Alberici at the July Grow Native Symposium. Alberici has used all native plants on the campus of their headquarters. Aside from using indigenous plants, the company has promulgated the benefits of native flora. Information about the Alberici headquarters can be found at [[www.alberici.com](http://www.alberici.com)].

**President’s note:** This award was done at the initiative, and with much creativity, by Kevin Bley, one of our members who recently stepped forward to fill a vacant Publicity Chairman post. While this is not an award normally presented by the Society, perhaps it should be. Kevin has shown us an opportunity to encourage and reward those who promote the use of native plants. We will, at the next Board meeting in September, discuss what possibilities exist for future recognition awards. There are certainly other companies, municipalities, or individuals that the Society could recognize for their promotion and use of native plants.

# Randal Clark and Nels Holmberg Receive Society's Awards

Submitted by Jack H. Harris, Awards Committee Chair

Meanwhile back at Peck Ranch, Carter County, MO the Missouri Native Plant Society's President Rex Hill called the Annual Meeting to order. At this meeting the officers and board usually set aside time for honoring those individuals who have made notable contributions the native plant situation in Missouri.

This year Jack Harris (representing the awards committee of Jack Harris, Larry Morrison and Judy Turner) read the citations for the 2006 award winners:

•**Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award presented to Randal Clark** for his leadership skills and creative style in sharing the lore of Missouri's flora & natural heritage for over two decades;

•**Arthur Christ Research Award presented to Nels Holmberg** for his initiative and resourcefulness in conducting botanical surveys, writing studies and raising awareness of the Missouri flora in academic, public and private venues.

Although those cited were not present, the plaques were individually presented at suitable ceremonies by the Society Chapters. As you read this material, we urge you to keep in mind that the Society is always looking for nominations for the various awards. Make a note and send in your recommendations to next year's Awards Committee.

## **Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award Presented to Randal Clark**

For the past 23 years Randal Clark has been leading wildflower walks for the general public across Missouri and, in particular, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park and Columbia. Each of these walks is an excursion through botany and history as he tells a story of the native flora and of the place you are hiking through. In addition to his wildflower walks, Randal has led day trips, canoe trips, and overnight backpack trips all over Missouri, telling stories of the nature at each place as he goes. His favorite areas to lead hikes to are Taum Sauk, Current River, Eleven Point, and the Buffalo River (Arkansas) areas.

Randal grew up in Iberia, Missouri. His grandmother, who was a midwife and a herbalist, introduced him to native plants as a child. She taught him the plants and their herbal uses. At college in Springfield, MO, he received a double major in chemistry and biology. After college he found work in the chemistry field, but continued his passion for biology and natural history. Randal has been a long time member of our chapter (Hawthorn) and has been an officer.

Over the years Randal has given a variety of presentations to our local chapter and other organizations. A few of his topics include the wildflowers of Missouri and "Landscapes through time" in which he traces the biological diversity of Missouri for the last three billion years.

Within the Columbia community Randal has acted on his concern for the environment and illustrated his knowledge of Missouri flora by his involvement with the Bonne Femme Watershed Committee, as our chapter representative to the Smart Growth Coalition, and as a water quality monitor for outlying new residential developments. The Sierra Club and others have honored him for his contributions.

In these ways, among many others, RANDAL CLARK conveys his significant appreciation and knowledge of the native flora of Missouri and his willingness to share it with others.

## **Arthur Christ Research Award Presented to Nels Holmberg**

Long before retirement from his first career working in research departments at Washington University Medical School, Nels' interest had turned toward field botany and the study of natural habitats. This led to his joining MONPS in 1988 and his enrollment at the University of Missouri-St. Louis graduate school on retirement day in 1998.

During Nels' studies as a graduate student, the Webster Groves Nature Study Society weekly botany field trip group noticed a definite change in the average age of participants, i.e., the average age went DOWN. This was due to the efforts of Nels to persuade fellow graduate students to join our field trips and experience Missouri flora first hand in their native habitat. During this time he would bring from one to four or so students along on a field trip. Needless to say, this modified the tenor of inquiry and discussion among the field trip group. Unfortunately when Nels graduated (MS Biology: Ecology, Evolution & Systematic - 2001), the students did also. As they became gainfully employed and moved on in their careers, they were lost to the local weekly field trip activity.

As the Native Plant Society coordinator for the Master Naturalist Certificate Program at the St. Louis Community College-Meramec, he participated in the design and implementation of that program and has served as instructor in over a dozen classes. He also conducts field botany trips in support of the Horticultural Program at Meramec and is an active participant and occasional session leader in the annual Missouri Natural Resources Conference (NRC).

Over the past several years Nels has performed floristic surveys for the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy (e.g. Grasshopper Hollow fen) and is a participant in a vegetation study with the Restoration Biologist of the Shaw Nature Reserve. He has also successfully negotiated special roadside habitat treatment with the local Missouri highway staff and adjacent property owners to restore a small glade near his neighborhood.

Nels' botanical interests continue to expand and over time have grown with Carl Darigo's guidance to include the world of Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts, and hornworts). He is a prolific collector and has added nearly 400 new Missouri county bryophyte records, including several state records. He has co-authored two papers in the journal "EVANSIA" with a third in progress. Nels has garnered a reputation in the bryophyte community for his acute eyesight and ability to find tiny species usually overlooked by other students. He is presently engaged in a bryophyte survey for Missouri Department of Natural Resources-State Parks Division. Furthermore, the products of his explorations are the source for several modifications (additions - upgrades - downgrades - deletions) to the state species of conservation concern listings.

Nels has served MONPS as a Chapter Representative and as Publicity Coordinator for several years. He is a regular field trip participant, a trip leader and is considered a native plant guru for the Missouri Native Plant Society-St. Louis Chapter and the Webster Groves Nature Study Society-Botany Group. He has presented evening programs at the St. Louis Chapter meetings and volunteers as staff associate at MONPS exhibits showing at symposia and botany related events.

Concurrently with all the above, and along with wife Sandra, Nels operates a small farm in Franklin County. Sandra manages a herd of sheep, trains dogs and hosts herding trial field events on their farm. He assists there and as the proprietor and operator of the Whiskey Creek Sheep Farm Nursery, raises native plant stock for various native plant sales and continues a relentless search for new plant species to add to the farm checklist. Characteristically reaching out to new territory, he also occasionally operates a Native Plant Exhibit at the Annual MID-MISSOURI HORSE & MULE FARMING & HISTORICAL CRAFTS DAYS event in Franklin County.

In these ways, among many others, NELSHOLMBERG has distinguished himself and is a credit to the Missouri Native Plant Society, to Missouri, and to our regional community that values and cherishes our natural heritage.

# Petals & Wings

Betty Walters, Editor



"There's always a period of curious fear between the first sweet-smelling breeze and the time when the rain comes cracking down". ~Don Delillo

No quotation seemed more fitting during the evening hours of Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. My daughter and I sat huddled together listening to thunder we thought would shake the house down, wind we thought would take the roof off, and rain gushing down the parking lot like a rushing swollen stream. The electric went off. I lit the four hurricane lanterns I brought with me to Missouri from south Louisiana—the ones I have gone through more hurricanes with than I can name here.

The heat soon became as stifling inside the house as it had been outside before the sun set. Carrie and I moved from room to room putting up windows to catch any cool breeze; then, pulled them down again when the wind changed direction, and the rain showered the windowsills. We listened to our battery-operated radio as the station host of KLOU took telephone calls from folks in St. Louis County and the Metro region. Part of the east terminal roof at Lambert Airport was laying in I-70. A 18-wheeler was overturned on its side on the Chain of Rocks Bridge. Several folks, who were parked in their cars under overpasses, pleaded for information on the size of the storm and where it was headed. One caller had a tree down on her house; another had one across his car he had parked along the street earlier.

After the storm passed, I drove to the Quick Trip to stock up on ice, and I thought about this quotation from **A Green Manifesto for the 1990s**, "Cities are expanding at an alarming rate. Inter-tidal zones are being polluted as mangroves gives way to marina. Over-consumption is leading to soil erosion and desertification, which in turn cause famine and exert pressure on formerly fertile areas. We are pulling out the plugs of the system that keeps us alive. Every indicator is showing red: species diversity, water quality, weather patterns, the number of refugees.... We are unraveling nature like an old jumper." ~Penny Kemp, British ecologist, and Derek Wall.

Two days later another storm wrecked havoc in St. Charles County and southwest Illinois. Ameren UE estimated it had 700,000 customers without power in Missouri and Illinois. The region sweltered in the heat, drought, destruction, and lack of electricity.

The National Weather Service reported that between the two storms there were seven tornadoes, straight-line winds that were almost tornado-like, downbursts, and winds that had reached 90 miles an hour.

Hurricane force winds in the Midwest. Blackouts affecting parts of California. Between 3,000-4,000 people in New York City entering their second week without electricity. I contemplated this news and remembered the optimism of Ralph Waldo Emerson, "But all sorts of things and weather Must be taken in together, To make up a year And a sphere."

Missouri's request for an expedited disaster declaration came from President Bush Friday.

Convoys of utility workers from as far away as Arizona arrived and began working around the clock to restore electrical service. One local worker, Bob Tackett, lost his life in the effort.

Charities, churches and pantries passed out hot meals and groceries to those who could least afford to loose the food they lost.

As homeowners and city and county employees struggled to remove the nearly 15 percent of St. Louis' trees destroyed by the storms, 100 dump trucks drove through the streets collecting debris, and the Missouri National Guard came in and helped with the cleanup.

In the midst of all this, I had wondered what happened to artist Dale Chihuly's Glass in the Garden exhibit at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Peggy Lents, a spokeswoman for the Garden, told the *St. Louis Business Journal* that not one piece had been damaged or broken. Folks, down South we explain that as, "The good Lord taking a liking to you."

While "Weather is a literary specialty, and no untrained hand can turn out a good article on it," according to Mark Twain, I trust you will forgive me for attempting to do so and allow me to leave you with just one more of my favored quotations from Helen Hunt Jackson, "By all these lovely tokens September days are here, With summer's best of weather And autumn's best of cheer."

## MONPS Websites

### KANSASCITY

[www.angelfire.com/mo2/kcmonps/](http://www.angelfire.com/mo2/kcmonps/)

### COLUMBIA

<http://columbianativeplants.missouri.org>

### SITES FOR MISSOURI BOTANY

#### Flora of Missouri Project

<http://ridgwaydb.mobot.org/mobot/missouri/>

#### Atlas of Missouri Vascular Plants

[http://biology.missouristate.edu/herbarium/atlas/atlas\\_of\\_missouri\\_vascular\\_plant.htm](http://biology.missouristate.edu/herbarium/atlas/atlas_of_missouri_vascular_plant.htm)

### READER'S SITES OF INTEREST

#### GrowNative! Plant ID

<http://mdc.mo.gov/grownative/plantID>

#### KCWildlands

[www.kcwildlands.org](http://www.kcwildlands.org)

#### GrowNative!

[www.grownative.org](http://www.grownative.org)

#### National Plant Conservation Campaign

[www.cnps.org/NPCC](http://www.cnps.org/NPCC)

#### Native Plant School

[www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativePlantSchool.aspx](http://www.shawnature.org/nativeland/NativePlantSchool.aspx)

### GARDEN CLUBS

#### Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.

[www.federatedgardenclubsofmissouri.org](http://www.federatedgardenclubsofmissouri.org)

#### Mid-Central District

[www.midcentralmo.com](http://www.midcentralmo.com)

# Mingo National Wildlife Refuge Is Site of Fall Botany & Canoe Trip

By Rex Hill, President

At the northern boundary of the 'Bootheel' of Missouri lies a ridge, where to the south, the land drops abruptly to a flat, and low, sandy, alluvial plain. This is the Mississippi Lowlands Section of Missouri's Natural Divisions. The ridge is called Crowley's Ridge, and in Missouri forms a boundary for a previous watercourse of the Mississippi River which at one time, prior to the end of the last glacial period in Missouri, flowed westward from its present location to the St. Francois River and down the western edge of the Missouri Bootheel.

The lowland was a major swamp prior to the advent of drainage canals constructed in the early 1900s to make available for agriculture the rich, productive land of the Bootheel. At the northwestern corner of this land, the drainage was not successful, probably because of its proximity to the St. Francis River and a continuing supply of restorative water for the swamp.

Abandoned because of the expense and only moderate successful in drainage efforts, this land on the Mississippi flyway, was purchased by the Federal government for a wildlife refuge and was named Mingo for the Native American tribe of that name, a branch of the Iroquois forced west by European settlement.

The refuge provides driving and hiking access to the edge of the swamp, boat access at certain times of the year, a number of nature trails including a one mile boardwalk trail, and an excellent Visitor Center with interpretive displays and information about the refuge.

This whole area is unique in Missouri for plants and animals that thrive in the sandy soils, particularly along Crowley's Ridge. In addition to Mingo NWR, other areas of interest include Holly Ridge CA, Otter Slough CA, and areas around Wappapello Lake.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides an excellent web site [<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Mingo/>] with detailed information and checklists of various kinds, mostly fauna.

I do have a checklist of vines of Mingo NWR and have talked to someone at the Visitor Center who was developing a flora of the refuge. Perhaps we can find more about that at the fall field trip.

Hope you can make it.

## ITINERARY

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 7:00<sup>P.M.</sup>** Speaker in meeting room at Oak Tree Inn, Dexter.

Speaker to be determined but will be presentation on Mingo National Wildlife Refuge or other topic related to flora of the Mississippi Lowlands Natural Division.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 8:00<sup>A.M.</sup>** Meet in parking lot at Oak Tree Inn to carpool to Mingo National Wildlife Refuge for canoe trip on Mingo River through bottomland forests and swamps. We will drive to the visitor center at Mingo NWR and from there to the put-in point for the canoe trip. The trip will last all morning and possibly into early afternoon, so we'll take our lunches with us.

At least eight canoes (with paddles and personal flotation devices) will be provided at no charge, or you may bring your own. Contact Tim Smith at 573-522-4115 ext. 3200 by September 15<sup>th</sup> if you want to reserve a spot on this trip. Bring your own lunch.

**SATURDAY, MID-AFTERNOON** We will head back toward Dexter, stopping at Holly Ridge Conservation Area to view American holly and rare plants of acid seeps.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 7:00<sup>P.M.</sup>** Quarterly MONPS board meeting at meeting room at Oak Tree Inn in Dexter. All members welcome to attend.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 8:00<sup>A.M.</sup>** Meet in parking lot at Oak Tree Inn for field trip to Sand Prairie Conservation Area near Benton in Scott Co. This area is a recent MDC acquisition where we hope to restore a sand prairie natural community. It features a sandy ridge with blow-outs and several species of conservation concern. It is near I-55 for those heading back north on that highway afterward.

## LODGING

Oak Tree Inn rooms for two persons around \$60.00 depending on applicable discounts plus tax

1608 U.S. Hwy 60  
Dexter, MO  
573-624-5800

2nd option: Country Hearth Inn rooms for two persons in \$50.00 to \$55.00 range plus tax

913 S. Outer Rd.  
Dexter, MO  
573-624-7400

## 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 our upcoming meetings and field botany trips.

**Jim Ford**, Richmond Heights

**Dianne Blankenship**, Sioux City, IA

**Sue Schoening**, St. Louis

**Brenda Peculis**, Columbia

**Carol Brown**, Virginia Beach, VA

**Edna Alexander**, Alton, IL

**Lesla Beamer**, Columbia

**Kate Hertweck**, Columbia

**Liz Jones**, St. Louis

**Carol Yonkman**, Columbia

**Jenny Riggs**,  
Kansas City



## Send Suggestions for 2007 Field Trips

By Rex Hill, President

One of the major purposes for the Winter Board Meeting, to be held December 2, in Columbia, is to plan the field trips for the next year. I am writing this short note to ask that any of our members, who have ideas about where they would like the MONPS field trips to take place in 2007, please let us know.

In the past, the suggestions of the board members along with those of a few of the regular field trip attendees get filtered into selections for the three field trips, Spring, Summer, and Fall. There are only a few considerations.

We try to schedule the trips for reasonable weather times and times that coincide with something of interest, usually flowering periods, i.e. Spring – April, Summer – June, and Fall – September. We do try to spread the locations across the state, so that no one chapter is burdened unduly with travel time or expense for all trips. The only other consideration is that we avoid the weekends when some major local event will prevent some of our chapter members from one area or another from attending the field trip. It is, of course, impossible to avoid all events, and we do what we can. Remembering that 'Variety is the Spice of Life', I've enclosed a list of some of our recent field trips (see below).

Please submit both your suggestions for field trip locations in 2007, and any dates you would like us to avoid to:

Rex Hill, President

4 Grantwood Lane

St. Louis, MO 63123

Email: rexhill@earthlink.net

### 1992-2006 Spring, Summer & Fall Sites

- 1992 Steelville (Reis Biological Station), Lake of the Ozarks SP, Blue Springs [1]
- 1993 Pickle Springs, Fulton (Prairie Garden Trust), St. Louis [2]
- 1994 Cassville (Roaring River SP), St. Joseph, Joplin
- 1995 Van Buren, Chillicothe, Springfield
- 1996 Salem (Montauk SP), Cape Girardeau [3], Clinton
- 1997 Cuivre River State Park, Stockton Lake State Park, Poplar Bluff
- 1998 Columbia, Bethany [4], Kirksville
- 1999 Cassville (Roaring River SP), Houston, Ironton
- 2000 West Plains, Carthage, Salem (Presley Ed Center)
- 2001 Columbia, Bethany, Kansas City
- 2002 Montauk State Park, Warrensburg, Kahoka
- 2003 Springfield, Clinton, Cape Girardeau
- 2004 Caney Mtn, West Plains, St. Joe
- 2005 Pere Marquette [5], Kirksville, Prairie SP
- 2006 Cassville (Roaring River SP), Peck Ranch CA, Dexter (Mingo NWR, Crowley's Ridge)

[1] Joint Meeting with the Kansas Wildflower Society, [2] Joint Meeting with the Eastern Native Plant Alliance, [3] Joint Meeting with the Illinois Native Plant Society, [4] Joint Meeting with the Iowa Native Plant Society, [5] Joint Meeting with the Illinois Native Plant Society.



### LAST 2006 STATE MEETING

Winter Board Meeting, December 2  
Dunn-Palmer Herbarium  
Columbia, Missouri

## Ozark's Native Plant Society Chapter Report

Submitted by Patricia French

The Ozark's have been plagued with drought conditions; however, the end of July brought some rain along with 80 miles-an-hour straight winds to the southern Ozarks. A lot of trees were blown down and storm damage was widespread.

The chapter has not been very active during the past couple of months due, in part, to the extreme temperatures and heat indices that have reached 115 degrees.

The Old Time Music Festival was held in West Plains on June 17<sup>th</sup>, and the chapter was represented at a booth. MONPS materials were handed out, and members were available to answer questions. Members regretted that the event presented a scheduling conflict on the same weekend as the state board meeting at Peck Ranch CA.

Wendy Zigler, naturalist for the Missouri Department of Conservation, presented a program on Plants, Caves and Karst at the August 15<sup>th</sup> regular chapter meeting held at the Missouri Department of Conservation's Ozark Regional Office, West Plains. Plans for a trail-planting project were also discussed.

Patricia French is leading a project for the Whippoorwill Trail located at MDC's Ozark Regional Office in West Plains. Native plants, shrubs and trees have been planted around the site since the buildings were constructed five years ago. The area includes a herp pond water feature at the trailhead and many native species are planted around the area adjacent to the pond.

MDC has been working to clear Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and other invasive species along the trail. Plans are to purchase native species suitable for planting in the wooded areas along the trail, to do some fall planting, flag the plantings, and fill in with spring plantings as needed. The area is used for school groups and other interpretive classes and functions, so the addition of native specimens will be very helpful. Future plans will include a trail guide project that could be compiled by chapter members and department staff.

The Purpose of the Missouri Native Plant Society is to promote the enjoyment, preservation, conservation, restoration, and study of the flora native to Missouri; to educate the public about the values of the beauty, diversity, and environmental importance of indigenous vegetation; and to publish related information.





# Peck Ranch Summer Field Trip & Board Meeting

By Rex Hill, President

On the weekend of June 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, we held our summer field trip and board meeting in southern Missouri at Peck Ranch Conservation Area in Carter County. Dan Drees and his very knowledgeable wife Susan hosted us. Dan, well known to many of us as the former head naturalist and premier resource steward at Meramec State Park, is now the Wildlife Biologist at this large and important piece of Missouri Department of Conservation property.

Dan treated us to an informative talk about fire history and its influence on Missouri habitats on Friday evening; then, he and Susan spent the day with us on our Saturday field trips. In the morning we visited Mule Hollow Glade, one of four Missouri Natural Areas on the Peck Ranch property. After lunch, we moved on to The Nature Conservancy property, Shut-in Mountain Fens and were treated to the most remarkable display of Grass Pink Orchids (*Calapogon tuberosus* - see photo above). Hundreds of these beautiful pink-magenta flowers were in the fen, and it was almost impossible to take a bad picture. I still managed a few.

After that we traveled to Stegall Mountain where a sudden downburst cut short our visit, but I encourage anyone, who was on the trip or any other citizens of the state, to visit this massive igneous glade. Besides the characteristic glade plants, it is well known for the dramatic increases in collard lizard populations after burning removed obstacles from communication amongst disjoint populations.

Saturday evening we had a community cookout planned by Sue Hollis and Pat French and assisted ably by Sue's Kansas City compatriots Ed O'Donnell and Dan Rice. This was held on the back porch of our accommodations, the 'bunkhouse' at Peck Ranch. Some of us had gone there planning to camp, but faced with the prospect of rain, and extremely muggy weather, the cowardly ones, like my wife and I, retreated to air-conditioned confines with a solid roof over our heads.

Ann Earley and Bob Siemer persisted with the 'total' outdoor experience, but were soon driven inside when rain proceeded to turn their tent into a shallow wading pool. One of our members, Steve Buback, does win the hardiness award for sticking it out in his tent both nights.

Thanks to Tim Smith and MDC for providing us with such luxurious accommodations at the place my hiking buddy always calls 'Tick' Ranch.

On Sunday morning a few of us drove to a pine restoration site south of U.S. 60. Probably, the sign by the side of the road billing this as a 'Pine Savanna' should be updated to 'Pine Woodland' in light of Paul Nelson's new book, **The Terrestrial Natural Communities of Missouri**. These pine restoration areas are receiving a large amount of attention, in the form of prescribed burning, from the U.S. Forest Service in attempt to bring back what was a major natural community in Missouri prior to the lumber practices of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

This part of our state, the Lower Ozarks, represents an accurate and enduring picture of our cultural and natural heritage. Much of the land is in public ownership by agencies such as MDC, USFS, DNR, and National Scenic Riverways. I've hiked the sections of the Ozark Trail that pass through this area, and canoed on the Jack's Fork and Current Rivers. Martha and I have visited many of the places with names like Rocky Falls, Klepzig Mill, Alley Spring, Prairie Hollow Gorge, Pioneer Forest, and many others. We've taken theme trips where we sought out obscure springs and sinkhole ponds, off the beaten path, using as our reference material, **Natural Areas of Missouri, Springs of Missouri, or Geological Wonders and Curiosities of Missouri**.

I encourage you to research, investigate, and explore this part of your state. You will be pleasantly surprised, and it won't cost an arm-and-a-leg for the gasoline.



Dan Dress, wife Susan (center foreground), and Society field trip members at Shut-in Mountain fen. Photo by Rex Hill

## St. Louis Chapter Report

Submitted by Martha Hill, Chapter Representative

July 26, 2006: George Yatskievych gave a slide show and talk entitled "Reflections on the Flora of Missouri Project." The audience was excited about the recent publication of this long awaited volume and many of us wanted to hear what it takes to get something like this to press. Not only did George give us a better appreciation for all the hard work that went into the first two volumes of his revision of Julien Steyermark's "Flora of Missouri," but he sold and signed books afterwards. We found it very interesting to hear how much time went into the pre-preparation of these volumes, including drawings for plant specimens and maps of specimen locations. An article is in the works giving a breakdown of the nomenclature changes that have been made since Steyermark's book was published in 1963 and should appear in a future *Missouriensis*.

In August, the chapter heard a report, on recent attendance at the North American Orchid Conference. The conference was held in Ashland, Oregon and was attended by MONPS members, Pat and Jack Harris, and Martha and Rex Hill.

# Shaw Nature Reserve Prairie Day

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, September 9

HIKES, WILDFLOWER SALES, BISON BURGERS & MORE!

As a much-anticipated biannual fun-filled family event, Prairie Day at Shaw Nature Reserve showcases the Reserve's 250-acre re-created tall grass prairie and portrays prairie heritage through activities and demonstrations.

Hike with a naturalist through the prairie to learn about prairie life, explore the sod house and teepee, play pioneer games, watch a blacksmith, candlemaker and other craftsmen, and see living history characters re-enact the lives of early prairie settlers.

Visit with an archaeologist and a flint-knapper that will display and interpret the artifacts of prairie life, and check out the exhibits of mammals, reptiles and amphibians, insects and live birds of prey, too.

Stop by the concessions to purchase bison burgers, home-made baked goods, root beer, corn on the cob and kettle corn.

And of course, no Prairie Day would be complete without a leisurely stroll through the native plant nurseries' booths to take advantage of a great opportunity to buy one, a few, or many of the native wildflowers and/or their seeds being sold for autumn planting in your garden.

Prairie Day is sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation and Shaw Nature Reserve. Shaw Nature Reserve of the Missouri Botanical Garden, in Gray Summit, MO, is located south of Interstate 44 at exit #253; watch for signs to the designated parking area.

**COST:** \$3 adults; free for children 12 and under, Missouri Botanical Garden members and Shaw Nature Reserve passholders.

**TELEPHONE:** 636-451-3512 or visit [<http://www.shawnature.org/events/prairieday.aspx>].



Park Naturalist and MPF Board Member Bruce Schuette (at far right) leads visitors into one of the beautiful native prairie openings within Cuivre River State Park last July. This October, Bruce will lead the seed collection workshop for those attending the MPF Prairie Restoration Seminar.

## 40th Anniversary Missouri Prairie Foundation Events

Cuivre River State Park, October 20-21

By Justin Johnson, MPF Development Director

In 2006, the Missouri Prairie Foundation is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. On Saturday, October 21, MPF will host a Prairie Restoration Seminar, including a hands-on seed collection workshop, for a \$20 registration fee. Speakers for the restoration seminar will include Jon Wingo, Frank Oberle, and other Missouri experts to be determined.

The seminar will begin at 10<sup>A.M.</sup> and seating is limited to 200 people. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Justin Johnson at 573-356-7828, or email him at <[missouriprairie@yahoo.com](mailto:missouriprairie@yahoo.com)>.

Saturday's activities will include a native grass-fed beef barbecue luncheon, a guest speaker, and MPF's annual awards for Volunteer of the Year and Landowner of the Year. Breakfast will not be provided on Saturday morning.

There will be free camping for all registrants on Friday and Saturday evening at the historic 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps' Camp Sherwood Forest located within the park. Camp Sherwood Forest features a full kitchen with walk-in refrigerator/freezer space, so bring a picnic dinner if you plan to stay overnight. "Sleeping cabins" at the camp have bunks (4 or 8 to a cabin) with mattresses, but bedding is not provided. Cuivre River State Park is located in Troy, MO (approximately 45 minutes from downtown St. Louis) and includes the best native prairie remnants in the metro area.

More details will be made available online at [[www.moprairie.org](http://www.moprairie.org)].

### 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  
 Kansas City ..... \$5.00  
 Osage Plains ..... \$5.00  
 St. Louis ..... \$5.00  
 Ozark's Native Plant ... \$5.00

(Circle all that apply)

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

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution for student research award (Hudson Fund)

**\*All contributions are tax deductible\***

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# Meeting Minutes Highlights Peck Ranch State Wildlife Management Area

## Annual Meeting 17 June 2006

President Rex Hill opened the meeting.

**Awards—Jack Harris:** On behalf of the Society, Jack conferred the Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education award to Randall Clark and the Arthur Christ Research Award to Nels Holmberg.

**Summary of past year's activities—Rex Hill:** Field trips since our last annual meeting have been Prairie State Park, Roaring River State Park, Peck Ranch. Numerous informational displays and participation in local native plant projects have been conducted by local chapters. The Society sent representatives Jack Harris and Rex Hill to serve on the Wild Areas Advisory Committee. MONPS continues to produce a high quality newsletter, the *Petal Pusher* (thanks to Betty Walters and many other contributors), website (thanks to Robin Kennedy), and our journal, *Missouriensis* (thanks to George Yatskievych and other contributors).

**Treasurer's Report—Bob Siemer** (report on file with Secretary): Current account balances equal \$7,017.81. The four MONPS CD's have a total balance of \$5,454.12. The Hudson Fund balance is currently \$13,853.72. CD 10, of the Hudson Fund is earning 4.29%, and CD 8 of the Hudson Fund will be reinvested in September. This year's Hudson's Fund \$500.00 scholarship award was essentially paid by a generous donation from Jack Harris and revenue from Meramec classes leaving the principle intact. T-shirt sales since last meeting equal \$30.00; and T-shirt inventory is: 11 S, 34 M, 34 L, 21 XL, 2 XXL.

**Election—Board:** Board Member Paul McKenzie will continue to serve, and new Board Member Sherry Leis was accepted to serve.

Annual Meeting adjourned.

## Quarterly Board Meeting 17 June 2006

President Rex Hill (RH) called the meeting to order; quorum assessment was okay. April 22, 2006 minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report—Bob Siemer:** We have a letter from the IRS identifying MONPS as a 501-3(c), any donations are tax deductible

### PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

**Publicity Chairman's Report—Kevin Bley:** Kevin will continue to investigate other organizations with which to partner. Kevin produced an award for Alberici (the Blazing Star), for using all Native Plants at their headquarters in St. Louis. RH noted that it was Kevin's own initiative (and \$'s) that produced the Blazing Star award for Alberici. RH encouraged others in MONPS to consider "applauding" others who use natives with certificates.

**Petal Pusher—Betty Walters (absent).** No Report.

**Missouriensis—George Yatskievych (absent):** Volume 26 has been distributed. Bill Knight will be taking over as distribution chair. Please support the journal with article submissions.

**MONPS website—Robin Kennedy:** Thanks to Robin for uploading the revised fact sheets so quickly. RH noted that he had received a few requests for the Society by-laws and was able to access them through the web. A question was raised as to whether there will be a fact sheet on sources of natives. **Reminder:** the Board voted to drop that fact sheet, as there are other sources for that info (e.g. GrowNative!).

### COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES

**Membership stats—Ann Earley:** 11 new members since April; 325 members total. Dues are now payable, and 140 renewals have already been received. **Reminder:** all Chapters (except Osage) will waive the \$5 Chapter dues for life members.

**Nominating Committee:** Thanks to Kathy Thiele!

**Awards Committee—Jack Harris (JH):** RH to Jack, "Nice Job!" Not an easy task and your work is appreciated. JH thanked the other committee members, Larry Morrison and Judy Turner. Guidelines are needed on what to submit with an award nomination; perhaps, the subject could be taken up at the December meeting. RH asked JH to work on guidelines and JH agreed.

**Hudson Fund Committee Report—George Yatskievych (absent):** No Report.

### CHAPTER REPORTS

Hawthorn, Kansas City, Saint Louis, Osage Plains, Ozark reports on file with Secretary. Tim Smith, note to Hawthorn: Vol. II of Flora of Missouri will not be sold by MDC. They may want to contact Missouri Botanical Garden about wholesale prices.

### SOCIETY BUSINESS

**Fundraiser/T-shirts:** Max Towler now has the T-shirts.

**Other:** Possible donation to Tom Aley's Ozark Underground Laboratory (OUL) was discussed and John Oliver **Moved** that MONPS support the OUL with a grant of up to \$400.00 to purchase seed for prairie restoration. Tim Smith **seconded** the motion. Motion approved. RH congratulated the Board on their decision.

### MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Smith—the grass bill once again did not pass the Missouri legislature. The new MDC atlas is out; however, it may not be as good as the previous edition as there are no landmarks (e.g. houses, churches, cemeteries, etc.).

Bruce Schuette—the state is working on a "conceptual development plan" for Graham Cave State Park. There will be a public meeting on August 29 at Montgomery City High School. Tim Smith and Paul McKenzie offered to write about Running Buffalo Clover is there will be an appropriate venue for offering those insights and opinions.

Marlene Miller—presented an article from the *Clinton Daily Democrat* on the restoration of wetlands in the Truman Lake area. The story focused on a celebration held May 24, '06 for the opening of the new Dehn Marsh, 2 miles west of Clinton, MO (article on file with Secretary).

Paul McKenzie—suggested that the membership be encouraged to submit ideas for field trips, instead of having the Board rush in December to come up with sites. It could be beneficial to have more input.

RH—noted that a woman in Springfield had inquired about forming a new chapter. He sent pertinent by-laws info to her.

Jack Harris—stated that Pat Harris had received a letter from Powder Valley re: reserving use of facilities for meetings. MDC is formalizing the process and will require that organizations submit by-laws, etc.

Robin Kennedy—announced that there has been a first time sighting and collection of Indian Paintbrush on Tucker Prairie! It is on the west side.

RH—continue dialog with Seeds of Success (Betsy Allen). RH will continue to communicate with Betsy Allen. She attended the native plant sale at Shaw Nature Reserve. RH noted that it is a difficult job to "break into" the state.

**APPRECIATION:** Thank you to Dan Drees and Tim Smith for programs. Thanks to Sue Hollis and the Dinner Crew!

Meeting adjourned.

### PRESENT AT MEETING (some only for Annual Meeting):

RexHill	Sue Hollis	Patricia French
Becky Erickson	Kathy Thiele	Paul McKenzie
Ann Earley	Bob Siemer	Bruce Schuette
Tim Smith	Kim McCue	Dan Rice
John Oliver	Martha Hill	Marlene Miller
Jack Harris	Judy Ward	Ann Schuette
Steve Buback	Lia Bollmann	David Schilling
Mistie Bley	Kevin Bley	John White
James Trager	Ron Colatskie	Bill Knight
Susan Farrington	Dan Drees	Robin Kennedy
Ed O'Donnell	Sherry Leis	

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Kimberlie McCue**  
Secretary



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- Randal Clark & Nels Holmberg Win Awards
- September Botany Canoe Trip & Lodging Details
- Send Suggestions for 2007 Field Trips
- And More!

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