



Missouri Native Plant Society

President's note: *Some of the chapter calendar items were omitted from the January-February issue of the Petal Pusher. Notably, those from Kansas City, and possibly others. Please accept my apologies for this unfortunate occurrence, and those of the Society's Board. The transition from Betty Walters to the new editor, whomever that may be, will, no doubt, be a rocky road. In the interim, I will strive to keep issues complete, timely, and accurate. Thank you for your patience.*

Rex Hill, President

March

- 12 **Mon., 7:00P.M.** **Regular Hawthorn Chapter Meeting** at the Unitarian Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Topic to be announced. For more information contact Paula Peters at 573-474-4225.
Columbia
- 19 **Mon, 7:00P.M.** **Chapter Meeting** at the Clinton MDC Office. **Waterbirds: What are all of those long-billed birds in the water?** Presented by Neal Young, MDC Wetland Biologist. For details contact Emily Horner at (660) 855-6981. Refreshments provided.
Osage Plains
- 20 **Tue., 6:00P.M.** **Chapter Meeting** at the MDC Regional Office in West Plains. Topic to be announced.
Ozark's
- 21 **Wed., 9:30A.M.** Join Bill Summers and others for a **Field Trip to Peggy Skinner's Farm**. Meet at the MDC Regional Office in West Plains.
Ozark's
- 22 **Thur., 7:00P.M.** **Chapter Meeting.** Sue Hollis and Dan Rice will make a presentation on the reproductive cycle of ferns. The meeting will be held at the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center, 4750 Troost, Kansas City.
- 22 **Thur., 11:30A.M.** **Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!** Kayotea, 912 E. Broadway, Columbia. All are invited.
Hawthorne
- 25 **Sun.** **KC Wildlands – shrub planting at Blue River Riparian Corridor.** These will be replacing removed shrub honeysuckle. Go to www.kcwildlands.org for more information.
Kansas City
- 28 **Wed., 7:30P.M.** The St. Louis chapter will hold a joint meeting with the Webster Groves Nature Study Society (WGNSS). Shirley Graham will talk on "**Crime Solving Plants**". Although Dr. Graham's passion is purple loosestrife, family: Lythraceae, she is also an expert on forensic botany. Meet at Powder Valley Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood (off Geyer Road, between Watson and Big Bend).
St. Louis

Calendar continued on Page 2.

***** Make a MONPS Award Nomination - see Page 7. *****

Time for getting out to see those Spring Wildflowers



Calendar continued from Page 1.

March

- 29 **Thur., 7-9:00P.M.** **Missouri Springs**, a class sponsored by MONPS at Meramec Community College as part of the Master Naturalist Certificate program. Rex Hill and Nels Holmberg will serve as instructors. This one classroom session will be followed by class fieldtrips on Saturday, March 31, Saturday, April 14, and a joint fieldtrip with the Society on April 28 (see below).

April

- 1 **Deadline for the May-June *Petal Pusher*.** Please send information, articles, photographs and graphics to Rex Hill, Missouri Native Plant Society president, at <rexhill@earthlink.net> by this date.
- 6 **Fri. Missouri Arbor Day**
- 7 **Sat., 9:30A.M.** Join Bill Summers and others for a **Field Trip to the Mark Twain National Forest near Noblett Lake**. Meet at the MDC Regional Office in West Plains.
- 14 **Sat., 9A.M. –Noon** **Native Plant Sale at Bradford Farm**. Please plan to help with our booth.
Hawthorne
- 14 **Sat., 9A.M. –4P.M.** **KC Wildlands – Celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Missouri Natural Areas Program**. Member organizations will be at the following local natural areas: Hidden Valley, Maple Woods, Isley Park Woods, and Blue River Glades. Go to www.kcwildlands.org for more information. The Kansas City Chapter will be visiting Bluebell Valley. For more information contact Sue Hollis at 816-561-9419, ferngro@att.net.
Kansas City
- 17 **Tue., 6:00P.M.** **Chapter Meeting** at the MDC Regional Office in West Plains. Topic to be announced.
Ozark's
- 22 **Sun. Earth Day Festival, Downtown Columbia**. Please plan to help with the booth.
Hawthorne Rain date on the 29th.
- 25 **Wed., 7:30P.M.** **Chapter Meeting**. Rex Hill and Nels Holmberg will present material from their Meramec class on **Missouri Springs**. Meet at Powder Valley Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood (off Geyer Road, between Watson and Big Bend).
St. Louis
- 26 **Thur., 11:30A.M.** **Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts!** Kayotea, 912 E. Broadway, Columbia.
Hawthorne All are invited.
- 27-29 **Fri.-Sun. State Field Trip to the Springs of Oregon County**. See details on facing page.

***** Note corrected dates for evening class and first field trip *****

Register Now for Missouri Springs Class

SPONSORED BY THE MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Some of the great natural features of our State are the springs that result from our geologic heritage. Learn more about why we have them, where to find them, the plants and animals that frequent them, and spend some time with instructors Rex Hill and Nels Holmberg exploring them.

St. Louis Community College-Meramec

Thursday, March 29, 7:00-9:00P.M.

Field Trips: Saturdays, 9:00A.M. to 12^{Noon}

Saturday, March 31, Hamilton Hollow, Meramec State Park

Saturday April 14, Welch, Round, and Alley Spring

Saturday April 28, Joint field trip with MONPS

to Oregon County

New MONPS Website Address

The Missouri Native Plant Society has a new website address. Thanks to Robin Kennedy and the University of Missouri Herbarium, we no longer need squiggles to get to the MONPS website. If you use the old website address, you will be transported to the Herbarium web page where you can then click the highlighted MONPS word at the bottom of the page.

Note the new MONPS Website address:

<http://herbarium.missouri.edu/monps>

The old website:

www.missouri.edu/~umo_herb/monps

can be used throughout 2007.

MONPS Spring Fieldtrip and Board Meeting – April 27-29, 2007

We will be staying in West Plains, Missouri and traveling to adjacent Oregon County to visit some of Missouri's many beautiful and out-of-the-way springs and other places of note. This is a joint fieldtrip with a MONPS sponsored class at Meramec Community College in St. Louis on the Springs of Missouri.

→ Friday, April 27, 2007

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. Rex Hill and Nels Holmberg will be presenting some of the material on Missouri Springs used in their Meramec Class.

→ Saturday, April 28, 2007

8:00 AM – Meet at the Super 8 Motel parking lot. We will carpool to the USFS trailhead parking lot for the **Greer Spring** Trail. We should be there by 9:00 AM, and may meet some of the Meramec Class there if they have not already traveled to West Plains on Friday. The trail to the spring is about 1 mile. There should be plenty of great spring wildflowers along the trail and some unique scenery and plant life when we reach the spring. After we retrace our steps to the trailhead, we will journey to **Falling Spring**, just north on Hwy 19 and visit this unusual spring emanating from the side of a cliff face. Again, there will be plenty of plant life to observe and enjoy.

12:00 Noon – We will travel from Falling Spring to a picnic ground for lunch at the USFS **Greer Crossing Recreation Area**, campground where MO 19 crosses the Eleven Point River. We should arrive by Noon, or shortly thereafter. Picnic tables and restrooms are available here.

Bring a sack lunch.

1:30 PM – Our next stop will be **Boze Mill** near the town of Riverton and then on to **Grand Gulf State Park** near Thayer. If time permits, we can travel to **Mammoth Spring**, the second largest spring in the Ozarks, just across the border in Arkansas. If it's getting late, those who do not need to be back to West Plains for dinner and the board meeting may want to see **Mammoth Spring** on their own.

7:00 PM – MONPS Board meeting back at MDC's Ozark Regional Office in West Plains. All members are welcome.

→ Sunday, April 29, 2007

8:00 AM – Meet at the Super 8 Motel parking lot. We have a number of options for Sunday, including **Turner's Mill, Alley Spring, Round Spring, Missouri's virgin pine forest walk along MO 19**, and others.

Lodging

Super-8 in West Plains – Telephone 417/256-8088

\$49.49 + tax per room with AAA or AARP discount, if you call them directly

1210 Porter Wagoner Blvd. – Business 63, North of the Downtown Area in West Plains



For some entertaining and really great wildflower photographs, you might want to try John Oliver's website at:
Community.webshots.com/user/oliverjcomo

Officer and Board Member Nominations Slate for 2007

The following slate of candidates has been submitted by the Nominating Committee for 2007.

Rex Hill - President
Tim Smith - Vice President
Bob Siemer - Treasurer
Kimberlie McCue - Secretary
John Oliver - Board Member (3 years)
Bruce Schuette - Board Member (3 years)

Additional nominations can be made through March 20th. Please send them by Email or US mail to:

George Yatskievych
Missouri Botanical Garden
P.O. Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166-0299
E-mail <George.Yatskievych@mobot.org>

For more information on the duties of any office, please contact the current person filling that position or George.

Petal Pusher via E-mail?

This is a request to our members who might like to receive the *Petal Pusher* electronically in the near future. This could speed the delivery and possibly save some of our mailing costs.

The publication would come to you as an attachment with a 'pdf' extension which can be read by Adobe Acrobat Reader which most people have on their machines. It is a freeware reader that can easily be downloaded.

There are, however, several considerations.

Some of you may have issues, either at work, or at home with allowing 'pdf' documents to reach you via e-mail. They can be filtered by your internet provider.

The attachment would typically be 500 Kilobytes(Kb) or less, but that can take a minute or two to receive over a phone line connection. The maximum size for last year's six issues was 370 Kb with an average of 320 Kb per issue.

The Board needs to hear from you (as many as wish to respond) about your interest. You can do that by e-mailing Ann Earley, our membership chairperson, at <aee623@prodigy.net>.

Put ***Petal Pusher*** in the subject line and please put your name in the body of the message as well as your thoughts about receiving the *Petal Pusher* via e-mail. This will give us your current (and accurate) e-mail address for our records, and link that address to your name in our files.

To date, we have had eight (8) responses. We will need more to justify the extra work on the part of the Membership Chairman and Distribution Manager. Please respond soon.

Petal Pusher Editor Still Needed

This is the first issue of the *Petal Pusher* printed since the Betty Walters era. Betty had done a great job for the last four years, and we owe her a debt of gratitude. For now, I have taken temporary responsibility for the production of the *Petal Pusher*. I am sure it shows! I want to thank everyone who submitted information so promptly for this issue, and until we find a new editor, submissions for the next issue need to be made by April 1 to me, Rex Hill at <rexhill@earthlink.net>, or mailed to me at the address shown on the back page.

This position fulfills a great need for the Society.

Items for every bimonthly issue include a calendar of events, chapter news, welcome to new members, list of Board, committee chairs, and chapter representatives (back page), how and where to submit articles to the newsletter (listed in calendar), membership application, graphics or photos.

Items that should be included when they come out are highlights of Board meetings, publications of interest, formation of new chapters, etc.

NOTE: The above is only a list of required items. The editor has much leeway in writing articles, or adding articles contributed from the membership, such as botanical articles, field trip summaries, recipes, book reviews, jokes and cartoons, committee reports, graphics, art, and poetry.

The editor may also want to try to get a regular column from the President, or from certain committees.

Additionally, the editor needs to solicit articles and remind Board Members to submit newsworthy items, and those pertinent to the business of the Society, for each of the six issues produced on an annual basis.

This issue was formatted and produced with PageMaker 7.0 software, and the Society owns its own copy of this Adobe software for Windows, which will be given to the new editor. For system requirements, please visit [www.adobe.com/products/pagemaker/systemreqs.html]. I have found it to be relatively easy to use and you should not let it frighten you from trying your hand as editor. If you have experience with another product, it may be preferable to convert production to that software. The two major requirements for the *Petal Pusher* are timeliness and content.

Other members of the board, Bill Knight, Distribution Manager and Ann Earley, Membership Chairperson handle distribution and mailing lists.

The editor produces each copy, converts it to an Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format, and e-mails it to the publisher; and, therefore, does not necessarily need to reside in the St. Louis area.

Anyone interested in this position, or wishing to see a complete set of guidelines should contact me immediately.

Rex Hill, President



Coneflower Awards

Congratulations to Dorothy and James Harlan of Clinton, Missouri for completing the requirements for the MONPS Coneflower Badge. I know that our chapter representative from the Osage Plains Chapter, Marlene Miller, and our Board Member, Sherry Leis, from that area have been instrumental in promoting this program in their chapter. While the requirements seem daunting at first glance, this chapter has tackled them as a group project. If the excellent reports submitted by the Harlans are any example, I believe we will be making this award to others in the Osage Plains Chapter in the near future. This is a wonderful example of the encouragement and support of a group leading to individual accomplishments. I have included the requirements for the Coneflower Badge in this issue to encourage others to follow the example set by Dorothy and Jim, and the Osage Plains Chapter as a whole.

Rex Hill, President



Coneflower Award Requirements

Step One (Everyone must complete this step.)

- A. Identify and record thirty (30) wild plants out-doors. List each one by common and scientific name.
- B. Note the location, habitat, and abundance of each plant found.
- C. Note whether the plant is in flower, seed, or fruiting stage.
- D. Note the date you found each plant.

Now choose and complete any seven (7) of the following:

Step Two

Illustrate your project showing at least five (5) of the above by sketching, photographing, tracing, or other graphic means. Include both blossom and leaf.

Step Three

Carefully collect seeds. Take only a few from any individual plant. Do not over-collect. Try to grow some of them. Do you know what is inside a seed? What? Sketch the seeds of five (5) species. Name three ways seeds are distributed naturally.

Step Four

Chose two (2) plant families. List species that are found in your area. List some not found in your area. What common characteristics does each family share which distinguishes it from the other?

Step Five

Find five (5) native plants which have at least one relative that can be found in your local flower shop, greenhouse, garden, farm, or field. List the native plant, its relative, and at least one common characteristic the two share.

Step Six

Identify Poison Ivy. How do you recognize its vine in winter? Sketch a typical leaf — be careful that you do not touch the plant. Tell how to avoid exposure to the plant and how to treat for Poison Ivy if exposed or if contracted.

Step Seven

Name three (3) wild plants used for medicinal purposes today. What specific part(s) are used? Name three (3) other wild plants used for medicinal purposes by native Americans. Name at least three (3) plants used in mak-ing dyes. Tell how the dyes are made and described the colors produced.

Step Eight

List fifteen (15) wild plants that have edible parts. Name the edible part(s) of each specific plant and tell how it/ they are prepared. List five (5) plants to avoid eating, naming the toxic part(s).

Step Nine

List some organizations in your community, state, and/ or nation which are working for the protection and propagation of wild plants. Discuss their activities. How can you help them?

Step Ten

Attend a local or state meeting of the Missouri Native Plant Society. Write a brief report of the business covered at this meeting and discuss any information you learned about native plants.

Step Eleven

Visit an area where native plants can be found. Tell the history of the plants found on this land, how they are or not being protected, and what their future is apt to be.

Step Twelve

Choose a small area from one to two yards square and list all plant and animal life found in that area. Date your list. Describe other features of the habitat, such as soil, water, exposure, and shelter.

Step Thirteen

Go on an outing with members of MONPS, The Nature Conservancy, or some similar organization. List all the plants found on this hike, using both common and scientific names. Note the abundance and habitat of the plants. Date your list.

Step Fourteen

List at least four (4) local, state, and/or federal agencies that control land in Missouri open to the public. Discuss the role each of these agencies plays in conserving the land. Visit one of these sites and describe the measures being taken to protect native plants.

Step Fifteen

Obtain the *Rare and Endangered Species of Missouri Checklist* from the Missouri Department of Conservation. How many flowering plants are currently listed for Missouri? Discuss some of the reasons why so many plants may be facing extinction.

Step Sixteen

Write a short essay on the ethics of native plant use and conservation.

Hawthorn Chapter Report

Submitted by Judy Turner, Chapter Representative

As reported for November 2006, several members of our chapter attended the "Imagining Columbia's Future" organizational meetings. From those meetings several citizen committees were formed. Hawthorn members Nadia Navarrete-Tindall and Becky Erickson were selected for the Environmental and Energy Conservation committee and Jim Whitley was selected for the Development committee. The various committees will be meeting at least once every month until next fall. All of us hope their participation will help to make a difference in planning for the preservation of native remnants and in retaining the quality of native streams in Columbia and Boone County. Additionally, an informal alliance of local Columbia and Boone County environmental groups is beginning to meet and exchange information about their respective groups and their activities. *Hmmm.....wonder what talking to each other might achieve?*

Back in October our chapter began investigating a possible proposal to the Missouri Department of Transportation to restore and maintain a "Wildflower Area" on a Stadium Blvd., which is a major thoroughfare in Columbia. This area borders part of the MKT Trail. Chapter members have walked the site and prepared a preliminary planning document for MODOT to review and approve. It will involve major brush and Japanese honeysuckle, fescue, bluegrass, and johnston grass removal. Chapter members will gather area native plant seeds (with permits) for re-seeding the area. We also plan on planting approximately 1,000 native shrub and tree seedlings in the Spring of 2008. Yes, this will be at least a three-year project! We are currently awaiting approval from MODOT.

In other chapter news the United States Golf Association recently awarded Nadia Navarrete-Tindall and the University of Missouri Division of Plant Sciences a \$30,000 grant to be used in a three-year study of the advantages of using poverty grass (*Danthonia spicata*) in the rough areas of golf courses. The USDA will add an additional \$10,000 for the first years with the possibility of \$15,000 more in the second year. Way to go Nadia!

Due to the icy and snowy conditions our usual winter hike has been postponed until...? However, the seed exchange and propagation workshop led by Becky Erickson was held. Propagating seeds and plants requires patience and more patience, with a knowledge of the requirements for a plant's growth. One of these days, maybe, we'll learn enough to achieve a 50% success rate!

St. Louis Chapter Report

Submitted by Martha Hill, Chapter Representative

On January 24th, John Oliver, a member of the St. Louis Chapter, started off his powerpoint show with several beautiful pictures of frost flowers, which he found blooming in Hamilton Hollow at Meramec State Park. He moved through the seasons with many closeups of spring, summer and fall blooming flowers, along with plants with seasonal interest. His pictures were inspiring and we enjoyed reliving the fun of finding the first flowers of spring: bloodroot, harbinger of spring, spicebush, and many more.

Kansas City Chapter Report

Submitted by Daniel Rice, Chapter Representative

The first meeting of the new year for the Kansas City Chapter took place on January 18th. This is our annual planning session, as well as the time we elect officers for the year. After the nominations were finalized, the election occurred, and the winners are:

President—Dave Alburty
Vice-President—Dave Winn
Secretary—Kathy Winn
Treasurer—Ed O'Donnell
Chapter Representative—Dan Rice

Congratulations to the new officers!

Our next order of business was to schedule field trips for the coming year. We have scheduled six field trips for the year, starting with Blue Bell Valley on April 14th and ending with Maple Woods on October 13th. We are also going to have an interesting presentation at our next Chapter meeting on March 22nd. Sue Hollis and Dan Rice are going to present a program on the fern reproductive cycle. Of course, there is a bit of method to their madness. The following Saturday, March 24th, Judith Jones of Fancy Fronds Nursery in Gold Bar, Washington will give a presentation on ferns at the Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center in Kansas City. The program is presented by the Garden Center Association of Greater Kansas City. Admission is free.

Ms. Jones will also present a workshop on fern propagation at the Garden Center in Loose Park. This should be quite educational, as Judith is world-renowned for the quality and variety of hardy ferns in her nursery. For further information, feel free to contact me at drice95875@aol.com, and I will e-mail the information to you.

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.

Meredith Donaldson, Columbia
Chuck Robinson, Parkville
Tracy Heuschel, St. Louis
Kent Fothergill, Sikeston

And to two new Life Members:

David S. Alburty, Drexel
Joseph S. Ely, Warrensburg

Dave is the President of the Kansas City Chapter, and Joe recently volunteered to serve on the Nominations Committee.

Missouri Native Plant Society Awards

THINK ABOUT IT!

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TOmake that MONPS award nomination you intended to submit last year, or the one you just thought of!!! The 2007 Awards Committee is now taking nominations from members of the Society. Awards are typically conferred annually and are based solely on merit. These awards are usually presented at the annual meeting. Last year the Society conferred one Education award and one Research award. The awards program reflects credit on the Society and raises awareness of our native plant heritage. Missouri is rich in BOTANICAL talent quietly doing extraordinary things on behalf of our native flora. We need your assistance in bringing these folks to our attention so they can be considered for appropriate recognition. Recipients need not be members of the Society. The Awards Committee will consider all nominations received from 1 March through 10 April 2007. Nominations may be made for five different categories 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.

A nomination document should contain the full name of the nominee, the name of the nominator, the title of the suggested award, and a brief statement (100 words or less) describing the major contributions of the individual or organization that merits recognition by the Society. The nomination may be sent via postal or e-mail channels to any of the committee members listed below.

Jack H. Harris jahar@mac.com 9708 Green Park Road, St. Louis, MO 63123-7133; 314-368-0655
Larry Morrison Larry.Morrison@scott.af.mil
Judy Turner jtejasrgv@yahoo.com
Sherry Leis Sherry.Leis@mdc.mo.gov PO Box 368, Clinton MO 64735

If you would like advice or assistance in considering or preparing a nomination, the committee will be happy to help. Suggested first steps:

1. File this article for future reference.
2. Write "AWARDS" on a bright yellow 'Post-It Notes' and stick on the refrigerator.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Awards Committee.

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

Make check payable to: Missouri Native Plant Society

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

Name _____

Street _____

City, State _____

9 digit Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

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March-April 2007

Missouri Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 20073
St. Louis, MO 63144-0073

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Inside This Issue

- Spring Field Trip & Board Meeting Details
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-

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Note changes below to:

Kathy Thiele's Email address

Bill Knight's Email address

Dan Rice now KC Chapter rep.

MONPS Website - New as of 2/1/07

Missouri Native Plant Society Officers and Board Members

PRESIDENT

Rex Hill
4 Grantwood Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-849-1464
rexhill@earthlink.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Tim Smith
1704 W. Main
Jefferson City, MO 65109
573-635-8085
Tim.Smith@mdc.mo.gov

SECRETARY

Kimberlie McCue
5056 Milentz Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63109
msokam@swbell.net

TREASURER

Bob Siemer
74 Conway Cove Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63017
636-537-2466
rivis42@prodigy.net

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Kathy Thiele
4 Rodelle Woods
Weldon Spring, MO 63304
636-300-9290
thiele6330@aol.com

BOARD MEMBERS

James C. Trager, Ph.D. ('05-'08)
Shaw Nature Reserve
P O Box 38
Gray Summit, MO 63039
636-451-3512, Ext. 6002 (w)

Paul McKenzie ('06-'09)
2311 Grandview Circle
Columbia, MO 65203
573-445-3019
paul_mckenzie@fws.gov

Robin Kennedy ('05-'08)
University of Missouri Herbarium
Columbia, MO 65211-3170
573-882-6519
umoherb@missouri.edu

John Oliver ('04-'07)
4861 Gatesbury Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63128
314-487-5924
joliver02@earthlink.net

Bruce Schuette ('04-'07)
678 St. Rt. 14, Troy, MO 63379
636-528-7247 (w)
baessch@nothnbut.net

Sherry Leis ('06-'09)
PO Box 368, Clinton, MO 64735
660-885-6981 (w)
Sherry.Leis@mdc.mo.gov

ARCHIVES

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

ENV. AND EDUC.

John Oliver
(see board members)

FIELD BOTANY

Tim Smith
(see officers)

MEMBERSHIP

Ann Earley
1425 Bobolink Pl.
St. Louis, MO 63144-1128
314-963-0103
aee623@prodigy.net

PUBLICITY

Kevin Bley
9252 Southview Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-544-3692
bley435@yahoo.com

MISSOURIENSIS, CO-EDITORS

George Yatskievych
MO Botanical Garden
PO Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166
314-577-9522 (w)
george.yatskievych@mobot.org

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

PETAL PUSHER, EDITOR

Vacant

DISTRIBUTION MGR.

Bill Knight
5101 Dresden Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63116
314-832-7081
knight-bill@sbcglobal.net

EDITORIAL COMM.

David Castaner
Paul Redfearn
Tim Smith
Stephen L. Timme

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES HAWTHORN

Judy Turner
jtejasrgv@yahoo.com

KANSAS CITY

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

OSAGE PLAINS

Marlene Miller
949 NE Hwy C
Calhoun, MO 65323
660-694-3581
jwmiller@iland.net

OZARK'S NATIVE PLANT

Patricia French
MDC Ozark Regional Office
PO Box 138
West Plains, MO 65775
417-255-9561 Ext. 222 (w)
Patricia.French@mdc.mo.gov

ST. LOUIS

Martha Hill
4 Grantwood Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-849-1464
marthajhill@earthlink.net

herbarium.missouri.edu/monps

March-April 2007

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