



May-June 2012

NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Volume 27 No. 2

". . .to promote the enjoyment, preservation, conservation, restoration, and study of the flora native to Missouri."

Friday, April 13 - Drury Conservation Area, site of April 2012 MONPS Board meeting

Minutes of December 3, 2011

President Paul McKenzie(PM) called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. A quorum was present. A motion was made by Susan Farrington(SF) and seconded by Bob Siemer to approve the agenda. The motion passed. John Oliver(JO) volunteered to serve as the recorder.

Bob Siemer made a motion seconded by Bruce Schuette to approve the minutes from the September 2011 meeting. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Siemer presented the report noting that dues are about the same as last year and that dues checks for the chapters will be given to the chapter representatives after the meeting. He added that a recent donation from Jack & Pat Harris was not included in the totals.

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

Petal Pusher – The need to hold publication of the Petal Pusher until several corrections and additions can be made was discussed. PM will contact Janet Haworth about the items that need to be included in the next issue, including state field trip locations and dates, awards announcements, new board member solicitations and wildflower brochure information. Nadia Navarette-Tindall will submit the article describing the MONPS awards and asking for nominations. George Yatskievych(GY) will send a pdf of last year's articles from the January issue that need to be updated and included again this year.

Distribution Chairman – Bill Knight announced that if there are no objections he will donate left over paper to an area school. There were no objections.

Publicity Chairman – There was no report. GY mentioned that there was no record of Blazing Star awards that have been given. He talked about the need for chapters to report when they do award them including giving a copy to Jack Harris for the archives and an article in the Petal Pusher. Kevin Bley will be asked to write a short explanation of the Blazing Star award including the type of people and organizations who have received it, the nominating process, etc. for an upcoming issue of the Petal Pusher.

MONPS Website – David Winn was not able to attend the meeting due to his busy schedule. PM asked if anyone might be interested in working on the website to keep it fresh, updated and monitored. Brian Edmond(BE) volunteered to contact David Winn about whether he wanted to transfer website control. He would also mention changing the purpose statement on the website to match Article I, Section 2 of the bylaws.

Missouriensis – GY announced that the 2009 issue was completed and was available to be handed out at the meeting. He stated the next issue would be published early in 2012 and would combine both the 2010 and 2011 issues.

COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES

Membership – Ann Earley stated that there had been fifteen new members since the September meeting for a total of 360. Chapter representatives should have their new rosters including those who have not yet renewed.

Archives – Jack Harris said all was still safe on the shelf. The election committee had kept the ballots from last year's election in the archives. Jack would like permission to destroy them. Susan Farrington moved and Bob Siemer seconded the motion to permit him to destroy the ballots. Motion carried.

Awards Committee – There was no report. PM had talked with Nadia and will renominate her as chairman of the committee. Sherry Leis and GY agreed to be on the committee.

Nominating Committee – Rex Hill volunteered to serve as chair of the committee that will nominate two board members. He will contact and recruit other members for the committee.

Social Media Committee – This is a new committee whose purpose overlaps with the website and publicity committees. PM feels that for MONPS to be successful it needs to be involved in social media. It provides more visibility, has value in both education and outreach and will hopefully attract a younger audience. The Springfield chapter has been successful in using social media and JO has started a facebook page for MONPS and the St Louis chapter. JO agreed to write a an article for the Petal Pusher about facebook, twitter, and web visibility as well as investigate how to change the information imported into facebook from the state website.

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Hudson Award – An announcement has been sent to various colleges/universities for one \$1000 award. The deadline for proposals is in February. PM and Michele Bowe volunteered to serve on the committee to evaluate the submissions.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Clarification of voting issues – Discussion took place on who was an actual voting member since there are now times when issues need to be resolved outside the actual board meetings.

Minutes of activities voted on outside regularly scheduled BOD meetings – After discussion it was decided to include a summary of the e-mail votes at the next regularly scheduled BOD meeting. Since the September meeting two votes were taken via e-mail. The first was a unanimous decision to donate a life MONPS membership to a fundraising event for Malissa Underwood's family. The second was a unanimous vote to sign on with a Missouri Prairie Foundation letter in opposition to the inclusion of miscanthus as a federally subsidized biofuel. It was also mentioned to add "vote required" to any e-mail heading introducing anything for which an actual vote is needed.

United Way Campaign – After discussion, it was decided to not sign up to be an organization involved in the United Way Campaign.

MONPS tote sacks and new orchid t-shirts – GY said there were plenty left of the totes and t-shirts as well as ball caps and to see him if any were wanted.

MONPS Statewide Locality Database – Discussion was held concerning the work that Brian Edmond has done on the database. He presented the work he has already done and asked for suggestions. He will try to incorporate them and have something additional ready for the next board meeting.

MONPS statement of purpose – Bill Knight led a discussion on the slogan currently shown on the website, facebook, and in the Petal Pusher. He felt it needed to be changed to be more in line Article 1 section 2 of the bylaws. A motion was made by Bill, seconded by Susan Farrington to change the purpose statement. Motion passed. Brian Edmond will contact David Winn about changing the website and Bill will contact Janet about the Petal Pusher.

Native Orchid Conference – Jack Harris led a discussion about the feasibility of MONPS taking the lead roll in sponsoring the Native Orchid Conference in 2013 or later in West Plains. He explained the history of the conference, what it included and the work involved. No one showed interest in taking on the conference chairman role. PM will contact Theo in Arkansas to assess the possible

interest their native plant society might have in hosting or helping with the conference in 2013.

Outdoor/nature social networking website – Brian Edmond led a discussion of the possible participation of MONPS with one of the various websites currently available. It would be another way to interact with and attract individuals with common interests. The social media committee will explore possible options.

CHAPTER REPORTS

The written reports are in the Petal Pusher. Updates were given by some of the chapter representatives present. Dan Rice will be retiring as the chapter representative from the Kansas City chapter after over 20 years. PM extended thanks for all his work and it was echoed by all present.

MEETING LOCATIONS AND DATES FOR 2012

It was decided to hold the spring board meeting in the Bull Shoals area on Saturday April 14, the summer meeting in Camdenton on Saturday June 2, the fall meeting in Troy on September 29 and the winter meeting in Columbia on December 1. Brian Edmond will help locate camping areas for the meeting weekends.

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

A grass id workshop led by PM will be held May 18 and 19, 2012 at Meramec Community College. Proceeds will go to the Hudson Fund.

PM relayed that John Atwood who was surveying with Nels Holmberg had found a moss in the Taum Sauk area that was a new genus to Missouri.

GY mentioned that there are enough membership brochures to last through the end of the year but we need to decide whether to reprint next year and if so what changes need to be made. If anyone has any suggestions for changes, please let GY know in the next few weeks.

Sherry Leis let everyone know that new regional fire consortiums are being formed.

JO reviewed the assignments.

PM thanked Robin Kennedy for hosting the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm.

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In Attendance:

Michele Bowe, Paul McKenzie, Casey Burks, John Oliver, Ann Earley, Dan Rice, Brian Edmond, Ann Schuette, Becky Erickson, Bruce Schuette, Susan Farrington, Bob Siemer, Jack Harris, Max Towler, Martha Hill, Malissa Underwood, Rex Hill, Allison Vaughn, Emily Horner, Merv Wallace, Robin Kennedy, John White, Bill Knight, George Yatskievych, Sherry Leis



MONPS Annual Meeting and Field Trips – June 1-3, 2012

Our summer meetings and field trips will be in and around two of Missouri's best-loved and most beautiful State Parks, Ha Ha Tonka and Lake of the Ozarks. Our headquarters will be the Econo Lodge Inn & Suites in Osage Beach, Missouri (see location and contact information in the Motel section below).

DIRECTIONS

US 54 Westbound, hotel located 2 miles past Glaize Bridge.
US 54 Eastbound, hotel located .5 mile past KK interchange.
Take Nichols Road Exit to Osage Beach Parkway.
Hotel Latitude/Longitude: 38.120594 / -92.678375
Use these coordinates to locate this hotel when using a GPS device or web map.

EVENTS TIMELINE

Friday

2:00 PM – For those able to arrive early on Friday, Park Naturalist Larry Webb has agreed to take us to Bank Branch and Spencer Creek, two units recently included in the Natural Area expansion. We will meet at the Ha Ha Tonka Visitor Center.

GPS: N37° 58' 59" / W92° 46' 07"

7:00 PM – Econo Lodge Meeting Room, Osage Beach, MO Program by Larry Webb, "The Ha Ha Tonka Oak Woodland Natural Area Expansion"

Saturday

8:00 AM – Meet at Econo Lodge parking lot (or meet at the Visitor Center parking lot at 8:30). We will caravan to the south portion of the Ha Ha Tonka Visitor Center Parking lot and carpool to the Oak Woodland Natural Area parking lot (formerly Turkey Pen Hollow). GPS: N37° 58' 59" / W92° 46' 07"

*From the Econo Lodge:

1. Head southwest on US-54 W (toward the lake) - 3.9 mi
2. Turn left on Hwy D before crossing the lake (church on left)- 0.4 mi
3. Take the 1st right to stay on Hwy D and enter Park; Parking lot is first on right - 1 mi

*At lunch (around noon), we will use picnic tables in the state park; bring food and drink for your own lunch. *Some people may choose to drive into Camdenton for lunch.*

1:00 PM – The Meeting point for the afternoon field trip will again be the large Visitor Center lot. We will need to carpool and consolidate into as few cars as possible for the drive to Lodge Glade. It is approximately a two mile hike into the glade unless we drive to the Scout camp to obtain direct access. (Work this out over lunch.)

7:00 PM – MONPS Annual Membership and Board Meetings in the Econo Lodge Meeting Room. Our annual meeting is

open to all members. We will announce election results and winners of MONPS awards. This will be immediately followed by the Board Meeting in the same room.

Sunday Morning

8:00 AM – Meet in parking lot of Econo Lodge, Osage Beach, MO or at Ozark Caverns at 8:30 AM

Driving directions to Ozark Caverns Rd

1. Head southwest on US-54 W toward Nichols Rd - 5.4 mi
2. Turn left onto Missouri A - 0.6 mi
3. Turn right to stay on Missouri A - 6.2 mi
4. Turn left onto A33 - 0.7 mi
5. Take the 1st right onto Ozark Caverns Rd - 0.4 mi

6. Continue to Ozark Caverns lot at end of road
We will spend the morning exploring the Coakley Hollow units, which include a fen, flatwoods, and dry chert woodlands with Cindy Hall, the long-time park naturalist for Lake of the Ozarks State Park.

CAMPING IS AVAILABLE IN BOTH STATE PARKS

Motels in Osage Beach

Econo Lodge Inn & Suites Lake Of The Ozarks

5760 Hwy. 54, Osage Beach, MO, US, 65065

Phone: (573) 348-1781 Fax: (573) 348-1938

Econo Lodge Website: (http://www.econolodge.com/hotel-osage_beach-missouri-MO135)

Town & Country Motel

5451 Hwy 54, Osage Beach, MO 65065

Phone: (800) 251-5677 ↑

Town & Country Website: (townandcountrymotel.com)

Comfort Inn Lake of the Ozarks

5885 Osage Beach Parkway, Osage Beach, MO, US, 65065 - Phone: (573) 348-9555 Fax: (573) 348-6538

Comfort Inn Website: (<http://bit.ly/JSq3NY>)

Motels in Camdenton

Sleep Inn & Suites Lake of the Ozarks

1390 East U.S. Highway 54, Camdenton, MO, US, 65020

Phone: (573) 346-4501 Fax: (573) 346-7845

Sleep Inn Website: (<http://bit.ly/HWuUjj>)

for more information ~

<http://www.missourinativeplantsociety.org>



CHAPTER REPORTS

Hawthorn

The Hawthorn March 12 meeting was held at the MDC Eagle Bluffs C.A. Office near McBaine. Vic Bogosian III, Wildlife Biologist with MDC, provided us with a very informative presentation on the management and research he is involved in at Eagle Bluffs. Most interesting was a discussion of his major interest and research; turtles. The highlight of the program was two live specimens of snapping turtles; one a 30 lb. Common Snapping Turtle and the other, a lesser known and seldom seen Alligator Snapping Turtle weighing 50 lbs.

The Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*) is the largest species of freshwater turtle in the world, is endemic to the United States and is the only extant species of the genus *Macrochelys*. It is ranked S2 (imperiled) in the state of Missouri (MDC checklist 2012). These turtles can reach 150 lbs. in the wild and twice that weight in captivity.

The highest alleged confirmed weight I have come across is 349 lbs. A large Alligator Snapper can break a broom handle in half and easily take a finger off. Vic showed us how to pick up both the Alligator and Common Snapping Turtles without losing an appendage.

In Missouri *M. temminckii* can be found in southern, south-eastern and eastern river drainage systems. They prefer rivers, sloughs, oxbow lakes with deep muddy water and river channels. They are totally aquatic, very reclusive, and most of this species seen on land are females searching for a suitable location to lay their eggs. Their most abundant prey is fish but they will eat anything from other turtles to carrion, being very efficient scavengers. The apparent decline of this turtle is due to many factors, but mainly habitat loss and illegal harvesting. This turtle has no natural predators.

M. temminckii is a very impressive, perhaps intimidating reptile, demanding respect, and possibly unchanged since the Miocene. No photo does justice to even a 50 lb. live specimen.

John White, Chapter Representative

Kansas City

The Kansas City chapter holds regular meetings at the Discovery Center, 4750 Troost. We also have wildflower hikes to area sites, distribute information about native plants at local events, and have annual plant sales.

Osage Plains

March 19th, the Osage Plains chapter met at the Henry County Library with Vice President Dorothy Harlan conducting the meeting. President Emily Horner was working in Columbia cutting trees and sorting through plant pictures with the Roadside Flowers brochure committee.

For the evening program, Casey brought examples of current plant pests such as tent caterpillars, horned oak galls, bag worms then switched to insects of beauty, butterflies and giant moths, and presented pictures of the native plants their larvae develop on. Members and three guests joined in lively conversation of shared experiences. In addition, Larry Lewis related how much he enjoyed visiting with people in the MONPS St. Louis chapter and going to the La Barque Creek Conservation area when he spent an extended time there recently. He especially enjoyed joining in "Monday Walks" with the combined St. Louis chapter and Webster Groves Nature Study Society (WGNSS) as they worked on sexing spice bushes. The experience filled his soul with joy.

March 31st, the first spring field trip was conducted at the beautiful 33A Peterman property between Clinton and Warrensburg. It was beautiful morning and a great turnout of Osage Plains members along with several guests. With the early hot weather, several flowers were already spent but others that we didn't see last year were blooming such as the buckeye and bladdernut trees.

Dorothy Harlan reported she recorded 35 plant species on the walk.

Casey Burks, Chapter Representative

Ozarks

We had an interesting presentation in February covering how to prune native trees, thanks to MDC Forester Julie Norris. And in March we learned a lot about what is being done to curb feral hogs and the threat they present to our natural areas, thanks to MDC Conservation Agent Brad Hadley.

Susan Farrington, Chapter Representative

Perennis

In May 2011, the Mississippi River levee breach flooded Big Oak Tree State Park for several weeks. This spring, Resource Steward Chris Crabtree reports that the understory is recovering, with violets and Clematis crisp appearing by early April. Visit the park during a series of our spring and summer hikes there to see how the extended flooding impacted the park's flora.

We are in the planning stages for other hikes in June and July, including sand prairie visits and a regular meeting at River Ridge Winery. Check the chapter website for dates: www.semonps.org.

Allison Vaughn, Chapter Representative

St. Louis

On the evening of February 22, Martha Younkin gave a program on the use of native plant materials for craft projects. This has been a long-term passion and pursuit of Martha's, and this was evident from her enthusiasm and the number and varieties of items that she brought

St. Louis cont'd
for display.

Most of the materials she had gathered from her own property which she admits is a continual work in progress. She has cleared numerous acres of cedars for prairie restoration and encouragement of the return of native plants such as compass plant, butterfly weed, rattlesnake master, and was rewarded by the unexpected emergence of the eastern ragged fringed orchid in one of her restored areas. Her research into the use of native plant materials for cordage, threads, and basket making materials have established her as an expert on the subject and she has learned much of this through practice in the use of hand tools such as the draw knife and methods such as “thigh-spinning”. She brought many of the beautiful and useful baskets she had made and shared how she had made them and with what materials. What hard and yet satisfying work! You can learn more at her website: www.naturalfiberbaskets.com.

For our chapter program in March, we were fortunate to have Ms. Kendra Swee, Interpretive Resource Specialist III, i.e. Park Naturalist at Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park talk about what has become “her” park to care for and interpret for the park visitors. Babler State Park is a good example of Missouri River Hills environment in Missouri and is increasingly pressured by the urban development surrounding the park. The Babler family, namely Jacob Babler wanted to do something to honor the memory of his physician brother who had been a generous and compassionate man during his life. He donated the initial park acreage and used his political connections to establish CCC camps in the park during the great depression years. Some of the original stonework of that group remains today in the form of bridges and buildings, much as it does in other parks in our state and around the United States. Kendra is faced with a host of management issues such as dealing with invasive plants, the effects of a massive tornado complex from a few years ago, harmful browsing of native plants by an over population of deer, maple and cedar tree growth resulting from a changed fire regime, to name a few.

She has ambitious plans to address these issues, one at a time, with the help of volunteers and whatever staff a diminishing state budget can support. We were encouraged by her enthusiasm and her honest assessment of the daunting task with which she is faced.

Rex Hill, Chapter Representative

Southwest

February’s meeting featured two speakers. First, Susan Farrington presented a comprehensive discussion on various methods for controlling non-native and invasive plant

species. We discussed pulling plants up by the roots to species-specific remedies for killing large invasive woody plants and everything in between. Susan obviously has a passion for killing non-native plants and shared many stories about ridding very sensitive natural areas of the pests. For those of you looking for a take-home message, Susan is not afraid to use herbicides where appropriate but she insists you must read the labels and take the necessary precautions to protect yourself. She inspired me to renew my efforts to rid our farm of multiflora rose, my arch-nemesis!

Next, Bob Kipfer talked about the amazing display of frost flowers that return each year on their farm at Bull Creek. Bob and Barb showed several photographs from the farm and stated that the same plants species produce the frost flowers each year and that the same individual plant will produce every morning for several days in a row. Little is really known about frost flowers, particularly because they are so ephemeral and straddle that rare line between botanical and meteorological phenomena.

At our March meeting, Larry Wegmann, chapter president, and Dr Laszlo Kovacs, professor of biology at Missouri State University, talked about the grape and wine industry.

Larry presented the classical view of grape culture using *Vitis labrusca*, *Vitis riparia*, *Vitis rupestris*, and *Vitis aestivalis*. Along with the attempts to hybridize American species to European *Vitis vinifera*, an invasive aphid was introduced that destroyed the European vineyards. Missouri viticulturist and entomologist rescued the European wineries. Dr Kovacs presented the modern molecular biology interpretation of the role Missouri played in the recovery of European grape culture.

On Sat 31 March 2012, several members of the MONPS Southwest Chapter met up with students from Missouri State’s Plant Taxonomy course at Busiek Conservation Area in Christian Co MO. The group started on the very large glade complex and worked their way down to the bottoms along Camp Creek. Although it would have been very early most springs, we found a lot of later-blooming species already up and getting started for the year: toothwort (*Dentaria*), wild ginger (*Asarum*), wild geranium (*Geranium*), walking fern (*Asplenium*), ragwort (*Senecio*), wild sweet william (*Phlox*), yellow dogtooth violet (*Erythronium*), several violet species (*Viola*), wild verbena (*Verbena*), lots of wild indigo (*Baptisia*) and prairie dock, and compass plant (*Silphium*) vegetative shoots, shooting star (*Dodecatheon*), wild garlic (*Allium*), paw-paw (*Asimina*), milk vetch (*Astragalus*), spiderwort (*Tradescantia*),

Southwest cont'd

two colors of larkspur (*Delphinium*), jacob's ladder (*Polemonium*), wild trillium (*Trillium*), jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema*), several species of buttercups (*Ranunculus*), as well as many other species.

The Springfield Conservation Nature Center recently solicited photographers in the area to submit photographs of nature and people enjoying the outdoors. MONPS Southwest Chapter members Bob Ball, Bob Kipfer, and Larry Wegmann submitted photographs for the display.

Brian Edmond, Chapter Representative

CHAPTER EVENTS

Hawthorn

2 May, Wednesday, 5:30 – Wildflower walk with Randal Clark, Devil's Icebox, parking off Old 63 in Rockbridge SP.

4-6 May, 2012 – Camping weekend at Hawn SP: Friday evening thru Sunday noon. Call Paula, 573-474-4225.

9 May, Wednesday, 5:30– Wildflower walk with Randal Clark: Devil's Icebox. Parking off Old 63 in Rockbridge SP.

12 May, Saturday, 9:00 am – Wildflower walk at PGT with Kay and George Yatskievych. To register, email henry@prairiegardentrust.org.

12 May, Saturday, 9:00 am – Earthquake Hollow (Callaway Co): Ladyslipper orchids and other woodland spring flowers. Leave MDC in Columbia - Difficult

14 May, Monday, 7:00 pm – Membership meeting at Unitarian Church, 2615 Sheppard Blvd. Program will be given by David S. Kubiak, (BS Nursing, MHA with an earlier background in Biology and Ecology) who is an avid Orchid fancier and grower. He will speak to us about native orchids.

16 May, Wednesday, 5:30 - Wildflower walk with Randal Clark, Devil's Icebox parking, off Old 63 in Rockbridge SP.

17 May, Thursday, 11:30 am – Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts, RagTag, 10 Hitt St. just south of Broadway.

19 May, Saturday– Clifty Creek NA (Maries Co): A little off the beaten path. Difficulty is easy on established trails, but a little long. All-day outing; bring sun hat, bug spray, water, snacks. We will possibly eat at Native Stone Winery on the way home.

23 May, Wednesday, 5:30 - Wildflower walk with Randal Clark, Devil's Icebox parking, off Old 63 in Rockbridge SP.

2 June, Saturday, 9:00 am – Fern Walk at PGT led by Dennis Figg (MDC biologist). To register, email henry@prairiegardentrust.org.

9 June, Saturday, 9:00 am – Warren Taylor: Private property in Callaway County Putty root orchid, goldenseal, glade plants, and others. Leave MDC in Columbia @ 9:00 am. All day outing; bring sun hat, bug spray, water, snacks, wear rubber boots if wet. Moderate. We will eat late at Beck's in Fulton.

Hawthorn cont'd

21 June, Thursday - Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts, 11:30 am, RagTag, 10 Hitt St. Just south of Broadway.

9 July, Monday, 7:00 pm – Membership meeting, Unitarian Church, 2615 Sheppard Blvd. Randall Clark will speak: Costa Rica, Land of Biodiversity

Kansas City

No events reported for May/June calendar

Osage

April 13,14,15: First Quarterly MONPS meeting at Branson. All members welcome. See the Missouri Native Plant Society site on Facebook or Web for details.

April 16th, Monday,6:30pm: Chapter meeting at the Friends Room of the Henry County Library in Clinton. Program TBA.

May 21st, Monday, 6:30pm: Chapter meeting at the Friends Room of the Henry County Library in Clinton. Featured program will be a plant exchange.

Field Trips TBA: stay tuned, Jim and Dorothy Harlan (cell: 660 351 5552) are scouting new field trip locations and working on a schedule.

Ozarks

15 May, Tuesday, 6:00 pm: Chapter Meeting. Note earlier meeting time than normal. We will hold our annual May meeting flower walk and social – place yet to be determined. (Tingler Prairie perhaps?). Meet at MDC Ozark Regional Headquarters. 551 Joe Jones Blvd. West Plains. Contact Susan Farrington for more details (see contact info on back).

19 June, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Chapter Meeting. Plant id night. Bring plant specimens or photographs for us to identify! We'll review how to key out plants. MDC Ozark Regional Headquarters. 551 Joe Jones Blvd. West Plains. Contact Susan Farrington for more details (see contact info on back).

Perinnis

6 May, Sunday,9 :00am, Nature hike at Big Oak Tree SP. See how the park has recovered from the levee breach that occurred in May 2011 and left the park under water for several weeks. Contact the park office at 573-6493149 for more details.

Impromptu hikes and gatherings will be posted on the chapter website: www.semonps.org

St. Louis

May 11, 12 - The Annual Mother's Day native plant sale at Shaw Nature Reserve, Friday, 11th for Missouri Botanical Garden members and Saturday, 12th for the general public.

St. Louis cont'd

May 18,19 - Grass Identification Workshop being taught by Paul McKenzie at Meramec Community College,.

23 May, Wednesday, 7:30 PM – Richard Abbott will be our speaker. He is a researcher at the Missouri Botanical Garden with a comprehensive knowledge of plant families and relationships, and fortunately for us, the ability to convey the information to a non-professional audience. His talk is titled, "Recognizing and understanding the Vines of Missouri" and will present an overview of the families and genera found in our area. The program will be held at Powder Valley Nature Center, 11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO.

27 June, Wednesday, 6:00 pm, Our annual evening walk – place to be determined, and on to an eatery after the walk. July 17 and 24 - evenings, with a morning fieldtrip on July 21, Richard Abbott will teach a class at Meramec Community College on, *Understanding Cladograms: A Phylogenetic Overview for Field Botanists*.

Southwest

Don't forget to follow us on our Southwest Chapter Facebook page to get reminders of upcoming field trips. Although we have no definite dates setup, we plan to visit a few prairies in May and June and we will be searching for *Mimulus floribundus* in the southwest part of the state over the summer. You won't want to miss out on the chance to discover a species new to Missouri!

NEW MEMBERS!

Nancy Konkus, Warsaw
Shelly Carter, Jefferson City
Karen Noland, Eagle Rock
Elizabeth James Rumley, Andover, KS

Not a member? You're invited to join us!
Ann Earley-MONPS Membership Chair
aee623@prodigy.net

Dr. Stephen L. Timme

27 August 1950 ~ 10 April 2012

Well-known botanist and teacher Dr. Stephen L. Timme, passed away on 10 April 2012 at the age of 61 after a battle with cancer.



Steve received his B.S. and M.S. degrees at Missouri State University and went on to earn his Ph.D. at Mississippi State University. He spent most of his professional career at Pittsburg State University in southeastern Kansas, where he taught courses in biology and curated the herbarium. In addition to his skills in field botany and vascular plant taxonomy, Steve was an accomplished bryologist.

He was active in both the Kansas and Missouri Native Plant Societies and served as the president of MONPS from 1993 to 1995. He also led field trips and workshops for our group. In addition to his skills as a botanist,

Steve was also a talented photographer, who maintained a file of plant images for MONPS during the years that he was active with the group. Steve published several field guides that included his photographs, including wildflower guides for southeastern Kansas, Mississippi, and the Natchez Trace.

Steve's obituary may be viewed online at: http://www.atkinsonfuneralhome.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=1447768&fh_id=13328.

Hudson Award

The Missouri Native Plant Society holds an annual competition for the Stanton Hudson Memorial Fund for Student Research. This program honors the late H. Stanton Hudson (1921–2002), a longtime member of the Missouri Native Plant Society whose passion for the flora of Missouri and its conservation inspired his friends and family to create a small grants program in his memory. Research projects conducted by college or university students under the supervision of a faculty member that involve some aspect of Missouri botany qualify for support under the Hudson Fund.

The Hudson Committee for 2012 comprised Paul McKenzie, Jay Raveill, and George Yatskievych. The committee received seven excellent proposals. From among these, we are pleased to announce this year's winner of the Hudson Award. Alice G. Tipton is a Ph.D. student in the division of Biology at the University of Missouri–Columbia. Her proposal is entitled, "Restoration at the roots: *Rudbeckia missouriensis* and its effect on mycorrhizal interactions and dolomite glade restoration." Her project is based on the observation that roots of the Missouri black-eyed Susan form strong associations with soil-borne mycorrhizal fungi, whose presence in soils is important in the development of diverse plant communities in the glades where *Rudbeckia missouriensis* grows. The aims of Alice's study are to address how a plant species with strong mycorrhizal connections affects the surrounding plant community and whether adding plants with potent mycorrhizal associations to a site can catalyze hyphal network formation, speeding up restoration processes. Congratulations to Ms. Tipton on an outstanding proposal and best wishes for the success of her research.



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