



Hawthorn Award

By Vanessa Silvey
President Hawthorn Chapter

A Hawthorn Award was presented to the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church, located at 3601 Amron Ct., Columbia, MO on June 13th, at 10 AM, to celebrate their use of Missouri native flora in Center landscaping. Their dedication to use native plants has earned them the distinction of being the first person or group to receive a Hawthorn Award from our chapter.

This award is given to individuals or groups outside our chapter for use, preservation, or education of native flora.

Around 30 members of the public, the Hawthorn Chapter, and Conference Center staff came out for the event which was followed by a cookie reception. It was a gorgeous, cool morning with purple poppy mallow and butterfly milkweed in full bloom.

The Hawthorn Chapter was honored to give a Hawthorn Award to the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church, and I know they were proud to receive it. Congrats to them!



Dues are Due

By Ann Earley, Membership Chair

Membership renewals for the July 2012-June 2013 year are due.

Please check the top line of your mailing label. If it shows the date 20120630, your dues are now payable.

When renewing, please remember to include your contact information and your society and chapter dues preferences.

If you have questions about your membership status, please contact me: Ann Earley
aee623@prodigy.net 314/963-0103

We value our members and urge you to renew today!



NEW MEMBERS

- Darlene Spell, Scott City
- Jen Sieradzki, Columbia
- Jason Mefford, Clinton
- Richard & Bessie Shelton, Mammoth Spring, AR
- Tina Campbell, Sunrise Beach
- Michael Garrett, Webster Groves
- Carol Sattler, Columbia
- Randal Clark, Columbia



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Hawthorn

Carpool meeting place for field trips is now at the commuter parking lot at AC and US63. All Columbia MDC offices have moved to Discovery Park, and the Research building at Stadium & College is closed.

10 September, Monday, 7:00pm – Membership Meeting at the Unitarian Church, 2614 Shepard Blvd. -Nels Holmberg will speak on Bryophytes: Mosses, Liverworts and Hornworts

15 September, Saturday, 10:00am to 2:00pm -- Plant Sale at Bradford Farm.

22 September, Saturday, 11:00 am to 4:00pm -- *In Touch With Nature*, Lincoln University, Busby Farm, south of Jefferson City. Contact Nadia for more info: (573) 681-5392 or by email Navarrete-TindallN@LincolnU.edu.

6 October, Saturday, 9:00am -- Field trip to Spring Creek Gap for asters, goldenrods, fall colors. Easy walking. Depart from commuter lot at AC & US63.

Kansas City

4 September, Tuesday, 7:00 PM - Chapter Meeting, Discovery Center

15 September, Saturday, - Field trip to James A. Reed CA, contact Elmo Law

13 October, Saturday - Field trip to the Richter Holler, details TBD, contact John Richter

Osage Plains

28-30 September - MONPS State Meeting and Field Trip to Cuivre River SP

17 September, Monday, 6:30 PM - Chapter Meeting at Henry County Library - Friends Room. Topic: Invasive Plants of Missouri: Bad, bad Bradford pear - presented by Theresa Cline. September Field trips TBA by the Harlans

15 October, Monday, 6:30 PM - Chapter Meeting at Henry County Library Friends Room. Topic: TBA

Ozarks

18 September, Tuesday, 6:30 pm: Chapter Meeting. Program to be determined. Meet at MDC Ozark Regional Headquarters. 551 Joe Jones Blvd. West Plains. Contact Susan Farrington for more details (see contact info on back).

16 October, Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Chapter Meeting. Becky Estes, Ozark chapter Master Naturalist and MoNPS member will present "Birding Fun in the Ozarks." Becky will share her enthusiasm for birding and native plants, and give us tips for getting started with birding. MDC Ozark Regional Headquarters. 551 Joe Jones Blvd. West Plains. Contact Susan Farrington for more details (see contact info on back).

St. Louis

September 26, Wednesday, 7:30 PM – George Yatskievych of the Missouri Botanical garden will present a talk, A Botanist on La Fontera. A Trip to the Mountains of Sonora, Mexico. Note: Sunset Hills Community Center, 3939 South Lindbergh Blvd.

October 24, Wednesday, 7:30 PM – Every year this is the meeting where chapter members are invited to share their photographs from the past field season. Power Point presentations, digital images, and even old fashioned slides are welcome.

Note: Because of MDC changes to sponsoring evening meetings at their facilities, we have moved our meeting site to the Sunset Hills Community Center, 3939 South Lindbergh Blvd. (at the Sunset Hills City Hall, south of Watson Road, near the corner of West Watson Road and Lindbergh Blvd.)

Southwest

25 September, Tuesday, 5:00PM - Monthly meeting, Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center. Work in the native gardens.

23 October, Tuesday, 6:00PM - Annual bonfire and cookout. Watch email and Facebook for directions!

Society Dues	Chapter Dues
(Chapter dues additional)	Columbia. \$6
Student dues. \$5	Kansas City \$5
Regular. \$10	Osage Plains. \$5
Contributing. \$20	Ozarks Native Plant . . . \$5
Life. \$200	Perennis. \$5
	St. Louis. \$5
	Southwest Missouri. . . . \$5

Make checks payable to Missouri Native Plant Society
 Mail to: Missouri Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 440353
 St. Louis, MO 63144-4353

Name: _____
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(Circle all above that apply)
 \$ _____ Contribution for student research award (Hudson Fund)

All contributions are tax deductible

Hawthorn Chapter

June 21 found our chapter selling plants and books at the MU Bradford Research Center Quail and Native Pollinator Field Day. We brought in \$371.00, not bad for a summer week day. Book sales were decent and we sold out of *Bringing Nature Home* by Doug Tallamy. His book explains the reasons for the decline of native plants and animals and how we can work to reverse it.



Hawthorn Award Given

(see front page)

The Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church was presented the Hawthorn Award, at the Conference Center, on June 30. Around 30 members of the public, the Hawthorn Chapter, and Conference Center staff came out for the event, followed by a reception. It was a gorgeous, cool morning with purple poppy mallow and butterfly milkweed in full bloom.

The Hawthorn Award is given to individuals or groups outside our chapter for use, preservation, or education of native flora. The Hawthorn Chapter is honored to give the first presentation of this award to the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Congratulations to them.

"The Hawthorn Chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society recognizes and honors the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church for fulfilling its commitment to native plants in the landscaping of the new conference center, especially in creating a native wetland area to reduce runoff into Hinkson Creek.

With volunteer help, they have created a 99% Missouri landscape which is functional and lovely, full of life and color" (Ref: Vanessa Silvey, Hawthorn Newsletter, July 2012)

Our regular membership meeting was held at the Unitarian Church on July 9. An excellent program on "Costa Rica, Land of Biodiversity" was presented by Randall Clark.

John White, Chapter Representative

Kansas City

Canoe trip to the Niangua River on July 14. In spite of the drought, the river was still navigable. On the drive to Bennett Springs, spotted a very dense patch of pale coneflower, which provided a quick pound of seed for future plantings. It is legal to collect seed from State right-of-way if anybody out there has had an eye on potential seed sources while driving around Missouri.

John Richter was notified of an unknown plant growing in a prairie planting at Burr Oak Woods. He identified the plant as *Lotus purshianus* (common name of Spanish clover). Very likely an accidental seed introduction from seed or equipment.



It seems to tolerate the severe drought we are experiencing in Kansas City very well.

The Missouri Department of Conservation confirmed the presence of the European ash borer beetle in Platte County, Missouri. White and green ash combine for a double digit percentage component of most forests in the Kansas City region so this is not good news. That is all for now from the Kansas City Chapter. John C. Richter, Chapter Representative

Osage Plains

June 1st – 3rd : MONPS Summer Meeting in the Camdenton area. Osage Plains members Scott Lenharth and Casey Burks enjoyed learning about the history of Ha Ha Tonka State Park from Naturalists Larry Webb and Allison Vaughn. Besides Savannas, and Glades, another special feature is the "Karst" terrain in the central area of the Park with a "collapsed canyon, natural bridge, and sink holes" created by acid rain dissolving limestone, dolomite and gypsum rocks.

Several large additions of land have been acquired to preserve this nearly 3000 acres of gorgeous diversity. 2000 of these acres are in a prescribed fire program and greater species diversity is documented when compared to the fire suppressed woodland. Control of invasives such as red cedar is a huge task for personnel:

10A of cedar were removed as part of one glade restoration project. "Remedy" herbicide is the current chemical being used to control invasive dicots.

For the Saturday field trip, the group studied plants along the 7 mile Acorn Savanna trail. In one area, we were surrounded by yellow coneflowers, purple prairie clover and goldenrod. In another area, there were lots of tall bluettes, starry campion and *A. stenophylla*. Martha Hill discovered a green orchid that had never been recorded for that area before! The Sunday field trip was the self-guided tour of Coakley Hollow in nearby Lake of the Ozarks State Park. This area also presented features of dissolved dolomite which created "fens, springs, seeps, residual chert boulders and desertlike glades". We crossed several wet areas on swinging bridges and could touch spicebush berries, persimmon, swamp dogwood, hog peanut, ninebark. I learned the difference between golden seal (straight stem) and false soloman seal (zigzag stem) and saw starry campion often enough to recognize it in our woods when I returned home!

June 18: 6:30pm, Chapter meeting at the Clinton Library. President Emily Horner asked new member Dan Henehan if he would show his excellent photos from Paintbrush Prairie which he gladly presented. For each plant, Dan gave information on its origin and uses by Native Americans and early settlers.

We continue to learn about edible plants such as Pigweed (*Amaranth*) and all had a good laugh when we learned that, "back in the day", Goat's rue was used to treat rheumatism and hair loss. At the business meeting, Emily gave a report on the Mead's milkweed surveys and will work on finding a Thursday suitable for a trip to Powell Gardens. Also, she will make a \$25 memorial gift on behalf of OP to honor Aaron Underwood. {Soon after this meeting we received word that Brian Mohr had passed away and Emily will make a \$25 memorial gift to honor him also.}

June 23: Chapter Field Trip at Conrad/Neuenschwander Prairie. This is a beautiful, privately owned prairie just over the Henry County line into St. Claire County. Long ago, member Kathy Conrad and her cousins John and Peg

CHAPTER REPORTS

Osage Plains cont'd

Neuenschwander, realized the importance of preserving this area and have held true to that vow rather than see it developed.

Emily Horner, Dr. Wayne Morton, Elizabeth Middleton, Jim and Dorothy Harlan joyously shared their expertise with the rest of the members and visitors. I finally found out the sweet little blue flower I'd seen earlier is called milkwort.

I learned from Dr. Morton that the wild petunia can live 180 years and just spreads by rhizomes since its pollinators are extinct!



Ruellia humilis
wild petunia

There were several different species of *Liatrix* to compare and, of course, lots of yellow composites to learn. At noon, we were invited guests to a buffet lunch inside the Valley Center church provided by church members. It was great day of walking in beauty, of learning and camaraderie!

July 14: 6:30pm, Annual potluck and Chapter Meeting at Dale Jennings. Another memorable gathering hosted by Dale and his family where we all sit around a huge table, visit and enjoy each other's cooking. I tried Lambs-Quarter fixed as a pot herb (cooked with onions etc) for the first time. I went back for seconds! After a meeting led by Vice President Dorothy Harlan, we went on a tractor pulled hay-rack ride around the property to play "name that plant". Dale and his son have spent years sowing seeds of wild flowers and it is a hidden jewel in Coal, MO. Dan Henehan brought a pile of his plant pictures he needed help with identifying; fortunately Sherry Leis was there to lend her expertise.

Chapter Field Trips to Connor O Fewell CA and Wah' Kon Tah. Stay tuned for re-scheduling by the Harlans. Casey Burks, Chapter Representative

Ozarks

In July and August, our chapter meetings were plant identification nights. These are becoming more and more popular, with folks bringing in lots of plants to identify! In July we spent a fair bit of time learning how to use dichotomous keys, but in August most of the plants were vegetative only (thanks to the drought!), so Susan cheated and told the group what the plants were. We discussed their ecology and uses, and learned a lot from one another. Susan Farrington, Chapter Representative

Perennis

On July 21, the Perennis Chapter took a short stroll at Trail of Tears State Park to see a suite of legumes in full flower. Unlike the rest of the region, Cape Girardeau has received rain this summer, and the park is an oasis of lush native flora. The lush, fern-rich understory and tulip poplar-white oak canopy kept us cool that 103 degree day. We hope to return in October to see the beech drops on Shepherd's Point.

Most of southeast Missouri has been under severe drought for months now, and field trip opportunities to see native wildflowers are few this year.

Allison Vaughn, Chapter Representative
St. Louis

In June each year, we hold a walk at some local area or property of interest. This year we decided to try something different and on Wednesday, June 27 we met at the home and property of Bill Knight for a look at the plants on Bill's property followed by a potluck barbecue and social hour. The extreme heat and dryness in the St. Louis area kept the plant looking to a minimum but the group enjoyed a cookout and shared dishes followed by a social hour. Oh well, maybe next year the weather will be more cooperative.

Our July meeting was held on Wednesday, July 18 and we had the pleasure of welcoming Bob Gillespie, MDC's Regional Biologist from the southeast district. Bob presented a very enthusiastic picture of the sand prairies in SE Missouri and had many beautiful photographs to show us that evening.

He made reference to many state listed plants found in sand prairies including dotted beebalm (*Monarda punctata* var. *villicaulis*), jointweed (*Polygonum* [*Polygonella*] *americanum*), and sand milkweed (*Asclepias amplexicaulis*) – not state listed, but with a Coefficient of Conservatism of 10. His presentation caused me to look again at a recent paper on the Sand Prairie Conservation Area in Scott County authored by Joshua Wibbenmeyer, Allan Bornstein, and Bob Gillespie that listed plants found there and included 10 state listed plants. Sounds like an interesting place to visit at the right time of year.

Also in July, a number of members of the St. Louis Chapter were privileged to attend a class given by Richard Abbott of the Missouri Botanical Garden at the Meramec Community College. This was the 31st class in a series running from 2001 to the present, sponsored by MONPS for the college's Master Naturalist program. The proceeds from these classes go to our Hudson Fund and we thank Richard for the generous contribution of his time. The title of the class, a mouthful, was Understanding Cladograms: A Phylogenetic Overview for Field Botanists. It turned out to be an illuminating and thorough presentation on just why our plants are moving around in the realm of plant families. Modern scientific techniques used in conjunction with more traditional methods are aiding in understanding the classification and evolution of plants through time and geographic origin. Richard was very patient with a room full of eager to learn novices.

A **cladogram** is a diagram used in cladistics which shows relations among organisms. A cladogram is not however an evolutionary tree; many evolutionary trees can be inferred from a single cladogram. A cladogram uses lines that branch off in different directions ending at groups of organisms.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

CHAPTER REPORTS

Southwest

The southwest chapter has been busy with the native gardens at the Springfield - Greene County Botanical Center. Because of the very hot weather and the drought conditions, weeds and other undesirables have been slow in coming back after our spring and early summer efforts. The native shrub gardens, which do not get watered at all, are very clean. Unfortunately, the shrubs aren't doing so well, either. The woodland and fern garden is watered occasionally, but many of the plants have gone dormant. A very healthy volunteer stand of passion flower vine has taken over one corner of this garden and is flowering profusely. Unfortunately, the maypops are not quite ready to eat but we ate some anyway and the flavor was a bit tart with just a hint of the sweet flavor to come. The prairie garden is doing very well. It is also watered occasionally and looks healthy, despite showing a bit of wear from the brutal summer weather. The rain garden has some great natives in it, but it's extremely dry and has some fescue and other weeds that need to be removed this winter.

Besides the normal work on the native gardens, our June meeting featured Bob Ball, with a great presentation of our spring field trips to Shannon Co MO and Hawn State Park. As usual, Bob had a great photographic mix of native plants as well as the hikers and other animals, too! The actual report from those spring field trips are detailed in the previous newsletter's chapter report if anyone is interested.

Because of the hot summer weather and lack of rain, most of our summer field trip plans never materialized. The drought conditions are as bad as I've ever seen them. Even in relatively shaded forest areas, most trees are stressed, with wilting, dry leaves. Some areas look like fall already, with dried leaves littering the forest floor. Spider webs, a typical nuisance in summer woods, are nowhere to be found. At least at our place, many of the weeds have outright died, are severely stunted, or are wilting so badly that it is unlikely they will produce much seed. That is good, at least. Some of the natives, particularly ashy sunflower, Silphium, and a few other NYCs look relatively healthy, but even they are showing some signs of stress. Many other natives have gone dormant. The grasshoppers seem very happy this year, but I wonder what they are eating--maybe each other.

Southwest Missouri is almost 10 inches behind normal precipitation since January 1, but we were pretty far behind at the end of last year, too. At our house, we've had less than five inches of rain between May 1 and August 1, and only one event during that time period exceeded an inch of rain (about two inches over five days at the end of May). Only four events were significantly more than 1/10 of an inch (0.62, 0.42, 0.90, 0.30). During the same period, we recorded 49 days with a high temperature greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Of those, 21 days had a high temperature greater than 100 degrees. It is mostly a dry heat, making it more comfortable for us humans, but piling additional stress on the

vegetation.

Drought or not, we are planning our annual bonfire and cookout for Tue 23 Oct 2012 at Michelle Bowe and Brian Edmond's house. The chapter will provide hot dogs and buns to cook on the fire. Bring a side dish to share with everyone and bring some chairs to enjoy the fire and the conversation. If you have seeds to share or unidentified plants or mystery photographs, bring those too!

Brian Edmond, Chapter Representative

BREAKING NEWS

submitted by Rex Hill via email

~LaBarque Creek Watershed Conservationists ~

Throughout our pursuit of lasting conservation in the LaBarque Creek Watershed, I've used baseball metaphors to channel my excitement. You may recall after recent purchases of the Franciscan and Wild Canid tracts, I mentioned there would be a play at the plate. Well, it is with great excitement and extreme pride, I'm pleased to shout, "SAFE, SAFE AT HOME!"

At their July 2012 meeting, the Missouri Conservation Commission approved purchasing approximately 160 acres (Morrow/McIlvain tract) in Jefferson County as an addition to the LaBarque Creek CA. This simply gorgeous tract helps bridge the gap between LaBarque Creek Conservation Area and the future Don Robinson State Park. When coupled with Young Conservation Area and Myron and Sonya Glassberg Family Conservation Area in the lower watershed, this purchase helps create two large, contiguous parcels providing conservation anchors for each end of the watershed, all within 45 minutes of the Arch. Or, to paraphrase where the STL Cardinals play, "Welcome to St. Louis biodiversity heaven!"

As a conservation partnership, we have accomplished an unbelievable success. Since MDC obtained 970-acre Young CA in 1986, this partnership has shepherded over 2,700 additional acres into the public trust – for a total of 3,691 acres! This was accomplished through support of many who helped fund purchases from willing sellers, incredible financial generosity of private conservation-minded patrons, thoughtful and limitless donations of individual time/talents and visionary donations of land – all while presented with challenging urban-like land prices during tough budgets and economy. Wow!

I'm sure excitement of this purchase has caused me to forget thanking or copying valued conservationists who helped with this effort. Please help me thank them by forwarding this note. And once again, thank you for all your efforts!

Kevin

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Emerald Ash Borer

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