

Petal Pusher

NEWSLETTER OF THE MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

November-December 2012

Volume 27 No. 6

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

MONPS Board Votes to Change Society's Fiscal Year

At the Society's fall board meeting on September 29, the MONPS board voted to change the Society's fiscal year from one ending June 30 to one ending on December 31. This change will have no impact on the timing or amount of members' dues payments, which will continue to be due on June 30 each year. The change is being made solely to better account for member dues payments, the Society's major source of income.

As the MONPS membership year runs from July 1 to June 30 of the following year, most member dues are received during the summer months. This results in part of the money falling in one fiscal year and part of it falling in the next year. This leaves us in a difficult situation in trying to judge how we are doing financially since a large part of the income

doesn't come in until the last month of the year. Changing the fiscal year to a calendar year will allow the heaviest time of dues receipts to be accounted for within one fiscal year instead of divided between two fiscal periods. Because this change is primarily for accounting and financial statement purposes, members should experience no change in when they make dues payments or in other MONPS activities.

~ By Bob Siemer, MONPS Treasurer

Change in Fiscal Year - 9/29/12

The current bylaws state that the fiscal year shall be July 1-June 20. Bob Siemer made a motion to change the bylaws to have a January 1-December 31 fiscal year. Max Towler seconded the motion. With over 2/3 of board members present, the vote was taken. Vote was unanimous.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR SOUGHT - IT COULD BE YOU!

MY SWAN SONG

One year, six issues, and a lot of learning! Due to health, and other more pressing responsibilities, this is my last issue of Petal Pusher!

Best wishes to the new editor!



Like us on Facebook!

Missouri Native Plant Society Group - where you will find pictures, articles, and friends!

Why would I want to be on Facebook? – You might not. If you have limited internet connectivity, an old or slow computer, or are intimidated or leery of technology, you are probably not a candidate for a social network like Facebook. On the other hand, millions of people have found the electronic ability to share and communicate with others fun and somewhat addictive. (cont'd pg. 2)

While the quality and speed of your internet connection affects any activity, Facebook is designed to do all the heavy lifting on their servers not on your machine. If you can run any operating system such as Windows or Mac OS and know how to use an internet browser, you can use Facebook. The reluctance to be “connected” is another matter. If you are uncomfortable with any such activity, I would say don’t sign up. However, I have enjoyed using the site and have done so without incident since 2008. Besides the ability to follow the postings and activities of my family and friends, I am a participant in five “interest pages” each of which is primarily only viewed by its members and which deals with an interest of mine. These are devoted to the history of my hometown, a Missouri Civil War interest page, a page of high school friends, and two nature-related ones, the Webster Groves Nature Study Society and the Missouri Native Plant Society. These last two can be used to announce and promote events and activities, and also to share photos of plants and animals observed and to ask and answer questions about them.

How do I sign up? – Facebook makes signup easy, as you might expect. All you need is an email address for verification. I have an email address that I use whenever I think “spam” mailings may be generated by my activity and I used it to sign up for Facebook. Once you are signed up, you will be assigned a Facebook email which is the only one any visitor can see for you. It is something like:

john.oliver.485@facebook.com. The Facebook site itself has complete instructions starting here:
<https://www.facebook.com/help/345121355559712/>

Privacy and security issues – It isn’t possible in this short space to assuage the fears many have about interactive experiences on the computer or to give definitive advice about protecting yourself. Again, the most complete information is on Facebook itself:
<https://www.facebook.com/help/325807937506242/>.

In a nutshell, you have control over whom you are “friends” with, who can see your posts, what groups you join, etc. If you have no “friends,” never join a group, never write anything, don’t follow any outside links, and never click on an advertisement, not much can happen to you. It will also then be a pointless exercise, akin to sitting in a locked, empty room. In other words, as with most things in life, you have to give something to get something. I can tell you that I am comfortable with the privacy and security I have experienced. I have, however, taken some precautions: I enabled “secure browsing” and “log-in notifications” (lets me know when another computer has accessed my account, even if it’s me). These and more are discussed on this website which has other useful tips as well:

<http://www.facebooktrainingessentials.com/2012/08/how-to-protect-secure-your-facebook.html>.

Finally, as with any online activity, keep in mind that **everything** you write or share is potentially viewable by others. Don’t say or do anything on Facebook that you would be uncomfortable with all your “friends” having access to now and for the foreseeable future. Stick to that rule, and you can have a lot of fun communicating with Facebook.

~By John Oliver - MONPS Board & all-around techi-guy

Winter Board Meeting – Dec 1, 2012

The Winter Board Meeting and Field Trip Planning Session will be held December 1, 2012 at 10:00 AM at the Dunn-Palmer Herbarium of the University of Missouri, in Columbia Missouri. Anyone interested in helping us decide the locations for the 2013 MONPS Board meetings and botany field trips is invited to come. Coffee and refreshments will be served. We will order lunch and work until adjournment (approximately 2:00-2:30 PM). <http://herbarium.missouri.edu/>

Directions

From the West:

Take exit 125 for I-70 BUS toward West Blvd
0.2 mi

Slight right onto Business Loop 70 E
1.6 mi

Turn right onto N College Ave
2.1 mi

Continue onto Rock Quarry Rd
0.2 mi

Turn right Dunn-Palmer Herbarium will be on the right [GPS: +38° 55' 55.48", -92° 19' 26.27"]

From the East:

Take exit 128 on the left for I-70 BUS W toward Columbia
0.5 mi

Slight right onto Business Loop 70 E
0.8 mi

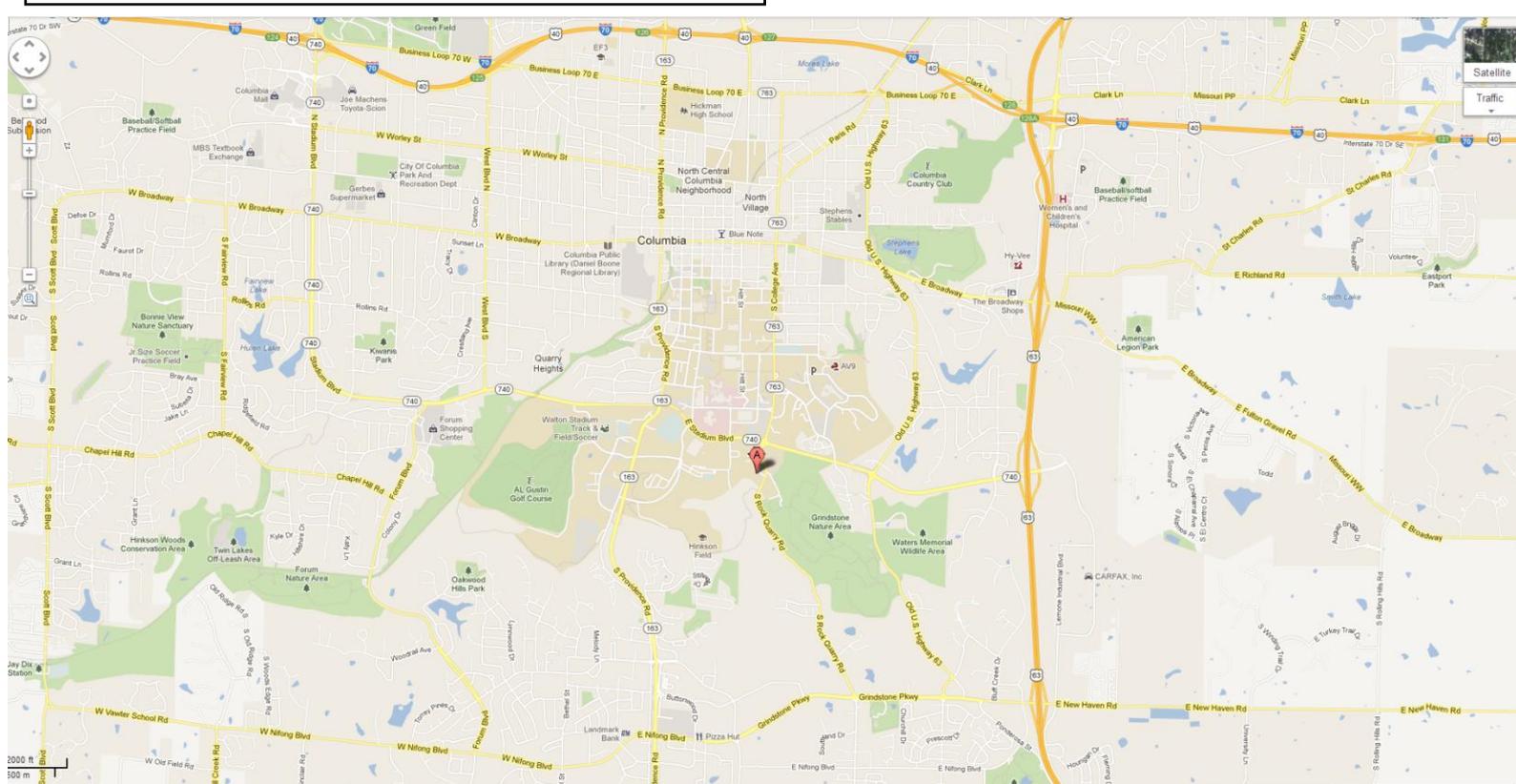
Turn left onto N College Ave
2.1 mi

Continue onto Rock Quarry Rd
0.2 mi

Turn right Dunn-Palmer Herbarium will be on the right [GPS: +38° 55' 55.48", -92° 19' 26.27"]

From the South:

Take your favorite route to Jefferson City
Follow US-63 N 1.5 mi
Exit onto MO-94 W/US-63 N toward Columbia
Continue to follow US-63 N 24.8 mi
Take the New Haven Rd exit toward Missouri
AC/Grindstone Pkwy 0.2 mi
Turn left onto Grindstone Pkwy/E New Haven Rd
Continue to follow Grindstone Pkwy 1.1 mi
Turn right onto S Rock Quarry Rd 1.5 mi
Turn left
Dunn-Palmer Herbarium will be on the left [GPS:
+38° 55' 55.48", -92° 19' 26.27"]



New Members

- Elizabeth Olson, West Plains,
- Rebekah Mohn, Fillmore
- Jess & LeeAnn Hamilton, Kingsville
- Daniel Henehan, Spring Hill, KS
- Karen Kathka, Springfield

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:

aee623@prodigy.net

We value our members and urge you to renew today!

344 members ~ 57 Life Members

CHAPTER EVENTS

HAWTHORN - Rusty White

12 November, Monday, 6:00pm - Regular Membership Meeting, Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd. Lorna Domke will talk about the work they do at Prairie Garden Trust.

15 November, Thursday, 11:30am - Lunch with Native Plant Enthusiasts at RagTag, 10 Hitt St [Just south of Broadway], for an Informal exchange of ideas and information.

1 December, Saturday, 10:am - State Board meeting, UMO Herbarium, [on Rock Quarry Road just south of Stadium] Columbia, MO. Business and field-trip planning. All are welcome.

KANSAS CITY - John Richter

November 6, Tuesday, 7:00 pm - KC Chapter Meeting at the MDC Discovery Center

January 8, Tuesday, 7:00 pm KC Chapter Meeting at the MDC Discovery Center

(for event details, contact John Richter at jack_0_lantern@hotmail.com, that is a numeral zero in the e-mail address)

OSAGE PLAINS - Casey Burks

November 19, Monday, 6:30pm Meeting at Henry County Library Friends Room. Topic: Tree Identification or Winter craft. Last OP meeting of 2012.

December 1, Saturday, Columbia, MO. Winter MONPS meeting. Planning for 2013.

February 18, Monday, 6:30pm First Osage Plains meeting of 2013 Henry County Library Friends Room.

OZARKS - Susan Farrington

20 November, Tuesday, 6:30 pm - Chapter Meeting. MDC Nature Manager Melanie Carden-Jessen will give a program concerning the use of native plants to make natural dyes. Meet at MDC Ozark Regional Headquarters. 551 Joe Jones Blvd. West Plains. Contact Susan Farrington for more details (see contact info on back).

PERENNIS - Allison Vaughn

Upcoming fieldtrips will be posted on the chapter's website: <http://www.semonps.org>

St. Louis - Rex Hill

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: Sunset Hills Community Center, 3939 South Lindbergh Blvd.

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.)

November and December – because of conflicts with the holidays, the St. Louis Chapter does not meet again until January.

Southwest - Brian Edmond

November and December - Don't forget that the November and December meetings are cancelled because of their proximity to the upcoming holidays. Have a great holiday season, stay safe, and rest up for our next wildflower season!



HAWTHORN CHAPTER

The “long hot summer” in Columbia took its toll on most plants with good or bad effects on organisms large and small. We had many days with temperatures in the 90s and triple digits, and virtually no appreciable rain for three months. Between May 31 and September 10 I never mowed my yard. Good for me but not my yard, although I had some new and interesting plants come up in my brown front yard that were never there before, including three thistles. I’m not complaining, I could always stand the heat well. I grew up with a farm background from the mid thirties to the late fifties (just missed the dust bowl years). In 1954, in the Excelsior Springs area and south to the Missouri River bottoms, it rained one time all summer and reached 113 degrees in the shade. I always loved summertime; still do.



The few field trips our chapter had scheduled were canceled due to the heat and our plant sale at Bradford Farm was canceled due to lack of MU funding for advertising: Just not much activity except regular meetings and our monthly lunches at the Uprise Bakery.



At our regular Chapter Meeting, on September 10, we were fortunate to have Nels Holmberg as our guest. Nels presented a program on Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts and hornworts), and brought samples of mosses and liverworts to examine. There are 324 species of moss, 128 species of liverwort and 4 species of hornwort that have been identified in Missouri, to date. Mosses and liverworts grow almost anywhere but the richest habitat is in moist sandstone canyons. Hornworts are ephemeral annuals and little known. Nothing eats bryophytes although snails will eat the capsules.



We learned the names of several different mosses, their appearance and where they grow. In general bryophytes are not well studied and very few have common names. Some require a 40x microscope for identification. Thanks Nels, your program and expertise was greatly appreciated by all.

John White, Chapter Representative



The Chapter also took a field trip to James A. Reed Conservation Area. The hike was led by member Elmo Law. Field trips continue to be a productive and fun way to learn about our flora.

It was also brought to our Chapters attention that our biggest fundraiser (native plant sales) will sorely miss the contributions and efforts by Sue Hollis in the future. Our Chapter will need to find both plants and persons to assist with this fundraising event for 2013 and beyond.

A suburb of Kansas City, Lenexa, Kansas, is offering a 50% cost share for the purchase of native plants to be used in residential landscaping. City policies like this are positive signs that our native flora is gaining some long overdue respect.

John Richter - Chapter Representative

OSAGE PLAINS

September 17 - Branch meeting at Henry County Library Friends Room. Theresa Cline presented information and materials on "Invasive Plants of Missouri". Theresa heightened our awareness on the insidious spread of non-native species such as Bradford (aka Callery, Aristocrat, Redspire, Chanticleer) Pear, Bush and Japanese Honeysuckle, Autumn Olive, Teasel, Musk Thistle, Multiflora rose, Kudzu, Garlic Mustard, Sericea Lespedeza, Chinese Yam etc.

Bradford pear cultivars were thought to be unable to produce fertile fruit but they DID begin to produce fertile hybrid fruits that were eaten and spread by birds. These seedlings now take over fields, parks etc. They are fast growing but with weak wood that easily breaks and creates high cost of removing them from under power lines. It's amazing and depressing, but these trees are still being sold.

Sericea Lespedeza is a noxious perennial weed that can easily outcompete native legumes. With Sericea Lespedeza's unpalatable high tannin content, grazing animals avoid eating it, enabling it to produce more long-lived seed, plus the extensive tap root enables it to better survive droughts and floods.

Garlic Mustard is another aggressive invader that ties up resources trying to control; it readily takes over moist forest floors by producing a chemical that discourages other growth, even mushrooms. Theresa encouraged us all to spread the word about eradicating invasives in order to save Missouri's valuable plant diversity and also to encourage more plantings along roadways of native species.

Members had a lively discussion about the status of Miscanthus giganteus, Eastern Red Cedar, trees dying of Hypoxylon and Thousand Cankers.

Hypoxylon Canker



stromata after spore

release



stromata with spores

Sept. 28-30: Theresa Cline and Casey Burks traveled to the beautiful state park of Cuivre River for the fall MONPS field trips and meetings. Near Troy, MO, this northeastern State Park has it all: native prairie and woodlands managed by burn schedules, sinkhole ponds with towering cattails, pristine Big Sugar Creek plus buildings and shelters constructed by the CCC in the '30's in amazing good shape.

A huge thanks to Member plus Park Naturalist Bruce Schuette for being our field guide for four field trips along with furnishing space for evening meetings. Fifteen years ago, Bruce implemented the Prairie and Woodland burns which was, at that time, revolutionary. Now it is taken for granted because soon everyone could see how much it helps restore diversity. On the field trips, we saw hillsides of gorgeous pink flowered Obedient Plant, an abundance of flowering jewelweed by a pond.

We worked on learning different species of asters, ferns, grasses, bushes I learned about Dittany "frost flowers", and that wild turkeys eat snail shells for calcium for their eggs. I saw my first False Yellow Mallow, Heliotrope, Blue Curls, Marble Seed plants. I ate chickweed (very nutritious and it really does taste better than lettuce!). I was going to try eating some Croton which has a common name of Prairie Tea but Nels Holmberg said his sheep wouldn't eat it so he didn't recommend it. We also had the opportunity to meet our student member Rebekah Mohn who, with guidance from GY and Steve Buback, is gathering herbarium samples from Andrew County which will be used for the Flora of Missouri Project. She already has an amazing knowledge base. All in all, it was an excellent learning adventure with wonderful people. Casey Burks, Chapter Representative

OZARKS

We're all enjoying the moisture that returned to the Ozarks in September, just in time to give us some fall blooms and color. At our September meeting, MDC's new plant community ecologist, Liz Olson, gave us a very interesting presentation about the flora and natural communities of Maine. It's a whole different world back east! Susan Farrington, Chapter Representative

PERENNIS

The Perennis Chapter is taking suggestions for fieldtrips and meeting places for 2013. The Charleston Public Library has a meeting room, free of charge, with ample space for presentations. Poplar Bluff and Cape Girardeau are also possible locations. The Chapter is seeking input from members regarding activities for 2013. Please contact Allison at allisonjv@yahoo.com with any suggestions. Allison Vaughn - Chapter Representative

ST. LOUIS

On August 22, we were treated to a talk on recent efforts by Dennis Meinert, a MODNR Soil Specialist to catalogue and categorize the soil profiles in the newly named Don Robinson State Park. Very accurate contour maps of the area were produced using LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) in overflights of the area and coupled with the results from on-the-ground sampling by Mr. Meinert, detailed soils maps of the park were generated. Hopefully, our group and other Natural History based organizations will have access to of these maps in the future when the park is more formally developed and opened to the public. Some of the many reasons for this detailed study sponsored by the Parks Division of the Department of Natural Resources include an in-depth understanding of the nature of the park prior to any developments and more modern uses of the land, and knowledge of drainages and erosion issues that might be impacted by any future developments by DNR such as access roads and trail systems. With this park property and recent acquisitions by MDC, over 3800 acres out of the 8400 acres of the LaBarque Creek watershed are in public and/or protected ownership. Much of this land is adjacent to and contiguous with the new state park and perhaps we should repeat our 2008 fall fieldtrip to this area in the near future?

In September, our immediate past president George Yatskievych, author of the first two and the soon-to-be completed third volume of Steyermark's Flora of Missouri, presented a talk on his recent trip to Sonora, Mexico. The talk, titled A Botanist on La Fontera. A Trip to the Mountains of Sonora, Mexico, was a very interesting picture (literally) of the flora (and some fauna) of a remote area in one of the disjoint mountain ranges that lie between the end of the southern Rocky Mountains and the beginning of the Sierra Madre range in northwestern Mexico. Because of limited road access, this mostly undeveloped area houses a relatively pristine floral and faunal population.

CHAPTER REPORTS

These 'sky island' mountains are part of the 'basin and range' mountain formation and appear in disjoint pockets in the western US and northern Mexico. Personally, I am familiar with one of these in southeastern Arizona, the Chiricahuas, home to Chiricahua National Monument. Because of their sudden ascension from the surrounding desert floor, they are home to many plants and animals that take refuge in the cooler, wetter climates provided by these mountains, hence the name 'sky island'. As usual, his photos were vivid pictures of unfamiliar plants and unusual animals. In addition, the facility, more like a summer camp with limited resources, was a remnant of the refuge taken by supporters and clergy of the Catholic church during open hostilities between the church and the Mexican government and provided George with the opportunity to give us some historic perspective on the area.
 Rex Hill, Chapter Representative

SOUTHWEST

The southwest chapter has spent a great deal of time weeding and maintaining the native gardens at the Springfield - Greene County Botanical Center. With the cooler weather and rain in August, the weeds--as well as the natives--have perked up a bit. We are all anxious to see the spring wildflower shade garden next year.

At our September meeting, Dr Ioana Popescu spoke about the wildflowers and culture of her native Romania. Several members attended and we had discussions on everything from botanical manuals to local pottery techniques. As always, Dr Popescu shows an enthusiasm for Romania and its people that is infectious.
 Brian Edmond, Chapter Representative

FOR MEMBERS ONLY!

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: _____
 Street: _____
 City, State: _____
 9-digit ZIP: _____ Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____

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

All contributions are tax deductible

- Camdenton MO

President Paul McKenzie(PM) called the meeting to order at 7:55pm. He announced there was a change to the agenda. The Grasslands Plan discussion would have no individual as a leader. A quorum was present. The agenda as modified was approved. John Oliver(JO) volunteered to serve as the recorder.

Bob Siemer made a motion seconded by Bruce Schuette to approve the minutes from the April 2012 meeting. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Bob Siemer stated the report was the same as had been reviewed during the Annual Meeting held earlier in the evening. Donations to MONPS – PM announced that a total of \$665 had been received in memory of Steve Timme and \$100 in memory of Carl Darigo for the Hudson Fund.

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

PETAL PUSHER – A discussion of the Petal Pusher content and timing was held. It was again emphasized that timely submission of articles and chapter reports is necessary.

DISTRIBUTION CHAIRMAN – Bill Knight no report.

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN – Kevin Bley couldn't attend the meeting. He sent word to JO that he wants chapters to keep in mind the Blazing Star award is available and they just need to contact him if they find a potential recipient.

MONPS WEBSITE – Brian Edmond(BE) has tried to contact David Winn – our current webmaster – but has not received a reply. After discussion, JO moved and Rex Hill(RH) seconded a motion to move on and have Brian establish a new domain. The motion passed.

MISSOURIENSIS – George Yatskievych sent word that he is currently working on two issues. The first is a collection of articles that is ready to be sent to the printer as soon as his wife Kay is better. The second is Carl Darigo's bryophytes/mosses work. Both will be issued this year.

COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES

MEMBERSHIP – Ann Earley reported that we have nine new members since the April meeting for a total of 329(57 life members). She has sent new rosters to the chapter representatives.

ARCHIVES – Jack Harris reported that all was quiet on the home front.

AWARDS COMMITTEE – PM reiterated what he had reported at the annual meeting that Carl Darigo had received the Steyermark award and Lance Jesse the Plant Stewardship award.

“combining” work that needed to be done on Facebook. JO discussed the popularity of flower pictures and potential ways to contribute them. **HUDSON AWARD** – PM noted that the last recipient – Alice Tipton – had requested the check be reissued to the University of Missouri instead of to her personally.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

BROCHURES – RH had the new brochures and distributed them to the chapter representatives present.

PROMO SALES - MONPS tote sacks and orchid t-shirts. An additional quantity of the “new” orchid t-shirts – medium size – have been printed and are available.

POSSIBLE FUTURE NATIVE ORCHID CONFERENCE – The Arkansas Native Plant Society does not seem interested in hosting this conference. They will contact PM if anything changes.

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN – PM received a letter from MDC requesting MONPS input as to which two/three issues should be included. A discussion was held concerning what the committee will be doing. RH volunteered to craft a statement and requested other members to contact him with their ideas.

GRASS ID WORKSHOP – PM announced the workshop was held May 18/19 at Meramec Community College. Our own Bob Siemer won the keying contest.

WILDFLOWER POSTER PROJECT WITH MODOT – Nothing new to report.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Kansas City chapter's new representative will be John Richter – the current chapter president.

WRITTEN REPORTS are available in the Petal Pusher.

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

2012 Fall board meeting will be held at Cuivre River State Park outside of Troy MO in September.

- Bill Knight invited all to his property on Wednesday June 27th.

- JO reviewed the assignments.

- The meeting was adjourned.

ATTENDANCE

Scott Lenharth, Michelle Bowe, Paul McKenzie, Casey Burks, Doug Miller, Ann Earley, Burton Noll, Brian Edmond, John Oliver, Jack Harris, John Richter, Pat Harris, Lisa Richter, Carl Haworth, Ann Schuette, Janet Haworth, Bruce Schuette, Martha Hill, Bob Siemer, Rex Hill, Allison Vaughn, Robin Kennedy, John White, Bill Knight



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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PRESIDENT

Paul McKenzie
2311 Grandview Circle
Columbia, MO 65203
573-445-3019
paulbeckymo@mchsi.com

VICE PRESIDENT

John Oliver
4861 Gatesbury Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63128
314-487-5924
joliver02@earthlink.net

SECRETARY

Ann Schuette
303 Spring Church Rd.
Troy, MO 63379
636-528-6544
aschuette@centurytel.net

TREASURER

Bob Siemer
74 Conway Cove Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63017
636-537-2466
aee623@prodigy.net

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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

Board Members

Allison Vaughn ('11-'14)
311 Ridgeway
Columbia, MO 65203
573-703-6448
allisonjv@yahoo.com

Robin Kennedy ('11-'14)
University of Missouri Herbarium
Columbia, MO 65211-3170
573-882-6519
kennedyr@missouri.edu

Bruce Schuette ('10-'13)
678 St. Route 147
Troy, MO 63379
636-528-7247 (w)
basch@centurytel.net

Malissa Underwood ('12-'15)
Malissa.Underwood@mdc.mo.gov
10665 County Rd. 381
Holts Summit, MO 65043
573-301-0082

Steve Buback ('12-'15)
MDC NW Regional Office
701 James McCarthy Dr
St. Joseph, MO 64507
816-271-3111
Steve.Buback@mdc.mo.gov

Michelle Bowe ('10-'13')
Missouri State University
901 S National Ave
Springfield, MO 65897417-836-6189
Mbowe@MissouriState.edu

MISSOURIENSIS

CO-EDITORS

George Yatskievych

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

PETAL PUSHER EDITOR

your name here

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Bill Knight
7175 Old Lemay Ferry Road
Barnhart, MO 63012
314-856-5167
knight-bill@sbcglobal.net

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Lisa Hooper
Jay Raveill

ARCHIVES

Jack Harris
9708 Green Park Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63123
314-368-0655

jahar@mac.com

SOCIAL & MEDIA COMMITTEE

Brian Edmond
Steve Buback

MEMBERSHIP

Ann Earley
P.O. Box 440353
St. Louis, MO 63144-4353
314-963-0103
aee623@prodigy.net

PUBLICITY

Kevin Bley
4 Zinzer Ct.
Grantwood Village, MO 63123
314-729-0335
bley435@yahoo.com

WEBMASTER

David Winn
7302 Rosewood Dr.
Prairie Village, KS 66208
913-432-4220
David@SouthForkPrairie.com

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES

HAWTHORN

John White
5100 Sandstone Dr,
Columbia, MO 65202
573-886-8698
rstywhit@yahoo.com

KANSAS CITY

John Richter
2520 NW 6th St
Blue Springs, MO 64014
jack_0_lantern@hotmail.com

OSAGE PLAINS

Casey Burks
Highway ZZ
Deepwater, MO 64740
515-291-1550
mbugwoman@gmail.com

OZARKS

Liz Olson
MDC Ozark Regional Office
551 Joe Jones Blvd.
West Plains, MO 65775
417-255-9561 Ext. 307 (w)
Elizabeth.Olson@mdc.mo.gov

PERENNIS

Allison Vaughn
Also a board member

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI

Brian Edmond
8878 N FR 75
Walnut Grove, MO 65770
417-742-9438
brianedmond@missouristate.edu

ST. LOUIS

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

