

PETAL PUSHER

May-June 2023 Newsletter of the Missouri Native Plant Society Volume 38 No.3

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

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Summer Field Trip to Columbia, MO (June 16th – 18th)

Join us on our Summer Field Trip! Prairie, glade, and woodland habitats plus a sinkhole pond; this trip will cover a variety of high quality habitats. Watch our website, monativeplants.com for directions and any updates.

Friday, June 16 at 1:00pm – Tucker Prairie Natural Area, Kingdom City, MO

Site Information:
<https://biology.missouri.edu/tucker-prairie>

At 146 acres, Tucker Prairie is the largest prairie remnant in mid-Missouri. The University of Missouri purchased this tract in 1957 and has maintained it as a research prairie. The rich, biological diversity of this prairie supports over 250 species of plants, including Michigan Lily (*Lilium michiganense*) and Virginia Bunchflower (*Veratrum virginicum*).



Friday 7:00pm – Evening Speaker, Paul McKenzie

An expert in many various genera, Paul will give us an in-depth look into his work with invertebrate species, including the Hine’s Emerald Dragonfly (*Somatochlora hineana*).

Meeting place: MDC Central Regional Office
3500 East Gans Road
Columbia, MO 65201

Saturday, June 17 at 9:00am – Johnson Private Property and Sinkhole Pond

Join us for a special tour! Private landowners, Brian and Susan Johnson have invited the Missouri Native Plant Society to tour their property located near Columbia. Our Friday evening speaker, Paul McKenzie, will join us for this tour. Paul is working to nominate this land as a Natural Area, which is not commonly done for private lands. Their property includes an incredible array of plant species and showcases a sinkhole pond where many species of sedges, some rare, have been observed. The landowners will have a vehicle available to transport anyone with mobility issues.

Saturday 12:00pm – Lunch at the Johnson’s Property

Saturday 1:30pm – Hundred Acre Woods Nature Preserve, Sturgeon, MO

Site Information: <https://greenbeltmissouri.org/hundred-acre-woods-nature-preserve>

Managed by the Greenbelt Land Trust of Mid-America, this 102-acre preserve includes a diversity of habitats and rare plant species have been observed on the area. From the website, “The property features upland grassland and savanna habitat, as well as woodland and forested areas at lower elevations along Silver Fork and Kelly Branch creeks, and a small glade.”

Saturday 7:00pm – Annual Meeting and Board Meeting at: MDC Central Regional Office

Sunday, June 18 at 8:30am – Auxvasse Glade within Reform Conservation Area, Portland, MO

Site Information: <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/reform-conservation-area>

This outstanding and extensive dolomite glade system (right image) extends for 31 acres. Located on the western edge of the conservation area, this site houses over 220 native plant species, including yellow coneflower (*Echinacea paradoxa*) and a rarer species of sedge, Crawe’s Sedge (*Carex crawei*). An important note about this area: We will meet at a parking lot on Reform CA and carpool to the glade via an access road that traverses private property.

Area Map: https://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/mo_nature/downloads/conservation-areas/7501map.pdf

Hotel Option:

Quality Inn; 801 N. Keene Street
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 449-4422

Reserve rooms by May 27 for group rate of \$95 per night. Account number is: 4624323



Optional Dinner Saturday evening at 5:30pm:

HuHot Mongolian Grill
3802 Buttonwood Drive, Columbia, MO 65201

Are You Host with the Most?

Choose native plants for your yard or property, and let the ecological buffet begin!

by By Carol Davit, Executive Director, Missouri Prairie Foundation & its Grow Native! program

The foundation for insect and other animal life is plants. Not just any plants, but plants native to a given location, where insects in that same geography evolved with those plants. Over thousands of years, insects developed the ability to digest natural toxins in plants that evolved to protect plants from being eaten. Many insects developed not only a tolerance for these plants, but also dependency. For example, milkweed plants contain cardenolide toxins for which monarch butterfly caterpillars have developed a tolerance, and they are in fact dependent on milkweed plants as their exclusive food source.

There are many other insect/native plant relationships besides monarchs and milkweeds. In the book *Nature's Best Hope*, by the entomologist Dr. Doug Tallamy, the author compares a native white oak tree in his yard with a non-native, invasive Bradford pear in his neighbor's yard. He found 410 caterpillars on the oak, and one caterpillar on the Bradford pear. Those caterpillars are crucial food for the babies of songbirds and for other animals.

We are included in nature's web of life, not just in our role as consumers of plants and animals, but also in the plants we choose to plant in our yards and property. If we choose to fill our landscapes with non-native plants—including invasive ones like Bradford pear, non-native honeysuckle, and burning bush—which most native insects can't feed on, that would be like inviting friends over for a smorgasbord of plastic food.

By planting non-native plants, we are essentially laying out an inedible buffet table for the songbirds we like to see around our homes, and they will suffer for it.

Don't be a party pooper. The Missouri Prairie Foundation's Grow Native! program provides you with many resources so you can be a host with the most—enjoy!



Right: A family at a Missouri Native Plant Sale in Kansas City, Missouri by Kelley Klor

If we choose to fill our yards and properties with non-native plants, which most native insects can't feed on, that would be like inviting friends over for a smorgasbord of plastic food.



Right: Native Dutchman's pipe provides food for pipevine swallowtail butterfly caterpillars, which in turn can provide food for birds. Photo by Mervin Wallace

Grow Native! Resources:

- View more than 30 Top Ten Native Plant lists for specific purposes and growing conditions, like half sun/half shade, clay soil, shade, to attract hummingbirds, and much more at grownative.org/learn/top-10-lists/.
 - Find garden design inspiration from designs for rock, water, and rain gardens, as well as garden plans to entice butterflies, hummingbirds, and frogs at grownative.org/learn/native-landscape-plans/
 - Watch more than 25 recorded Grow Native! webinars on native garden design, plant-insect relationships, and more at <https://www.youtube.com/@MissouriPrairie/videos>
 - Use the Grow Native! native plant database to filter more than 330 native species by soil moisture, sun exposure, and much more: grownative.org/native-plant-database/
 - Peruse a searchable directory of suppliers of native plants, shrubs, trees, native plant services at the Grow Native! Resource Guide.
 - Make plans to attend one or more of the May sales listed below and the resources of the Missouri Prairie Foundation's Grow Native! program, including those listed above, to create native plant shopping lists:
 - Saturday, May 13, 2023** (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) World Bird Sanctuary, 125 Bald Eagle Ridge Rd., Valley Park, Missouri
 - Saturday, May 13, 2023** (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center, 4750 Troost Ave., Kansas City, Missouri
 - Saturday, May 20, 2023** (10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) Bass Pro Shops Sportman's Center®, 3101 Bass Pro Drive, Columbia, Missouri
 - Saturday, May 27, 2023** (2:00 to 6:00 p.m.) Mother's Brewing Company, 215 S. Grant Ave., Springfield, Missouri
 - Saturday, May 27, 2023** (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) Bass Pro Shops Sportman's Center®, 18001 Bass Pro Dr, Independence, Missouri
- Find vendor and pre-order information for plant sales at moprairie.org/events/category/plant-sale/



Bluebird parents, like this one, must feed their young soft food, like caterpillars. Native plants feed caterpillars, and caterpillars feed baby birds. MDC photo

Nominations for MONPS Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce nominations for the positions on the MONPS Board of Directors whose terms expire this year. All of our officers have agreed to serve another two-year term:

Malissa Briggler, President
Hilary Haley, Vice President
Bob Siemer, Treasurer
Pam Barnabee, Secretary

Of the two Director positions coming open, serving three-year terms, Mike Skinner has agreed to serve again and Paul McKenzie has agreed to fill the position vacated by Justin Thomas.

Additional nominations may be made by the general membership. A written nomination from one member and written second by another member should be submitted to the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Hilary Haley (hilaryjhaley@gmail.com), no later than May 25. Each nomination must be accompanied by a written confirmation of willingness to serve by the nominee. If no additional nominations are received, the above slate of candidates will be elected by acclamation.

Garden Design: Fact or Fiction

by Louise Flenner

When I was a kid I learned in art class two important rules: 1. Color between the lines and 2. roses are red, violets are blue. Coloring books provided the outlined pictures and sometimes a color key, such as color all #1 in green, #2 is yellow, etc. Somehow the current proliferation of garden design maps remind me of this early experience. The implication is that if you put these plants, in the proper amounts, in the prearranged plan then your garden will look like the lush array of native plants in the picture.

As I got older, I appreciated art that didn't stay in the lines and that took liberties with preconceived notions of what color a plant should be. The garden artist has wonderful freedom to experiment with design and color.

As a mature adult, I see the benefit of both rigid rules and free-flowing design. In this article, I will share both my opinion and the comments of others about rules vs. realities when designing a native plant garden.

The organization Wild Ones provides professionally designed native plant garden templates for multiple regions in the United States. I am a member of the Mid-Missouri Chapter of Wild Ones and I volunteer to help maintain several community garden sites in Columbia, Missouri. It is tempting to only look at the St. Louis design plan, but many creative ideas come from the other designs. The Las Cruces design talks about water capture as a part of their desert location plan. It triggered in me the need to be thinking in terms of water retention and capture here in Missouri as each summer seems to have longer dry spells. The Boston plan called for a sedge lawn. Sedge grows well in Missouri. This could be a crossover idea.

Grow Native also offers garden templates on a more regional level. Here you can get plans for 13 different garden spots complete with plant lists. Xerces Society provides pollinator friendly plant lists.

Someone could get overwhelmed with all this information and never put a shovel to the soil. The best way to move from theory to practice is to go to the area where you want your garden and sit. Every gardener needs a place to sit or maybe several places. Getting a feel for the area unleashes creative energy. Look



Row of eastern red cedars, photo by L. Flenner

around and see if there is anything already growing there that you want to keep. Is there a view that needs to be kept visible? I recently started a new garden area that included a wooden bench from which I looked down a long row of 80-year-old eastern red cedar trees (*Juniperus virginiana*) whose branches spread out in front of me like a living roof of intricate wooden arms. It is mesmerizing.

I like to start a garden design with the hardscape. In this case I already had the bench and there is an existing small frog pond ringed in flat rocks. Frequent visits to the pond and bench have created a foot path that I picture bordered on both sides with pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*). Where the footpath enters the flowering garden spot, I put in a flat rock walkway. Then got quickly carried away with rock highlights. This included pairing some larger rocks to create height and backdrop for plants, rocks outlined a few beds to create smaller spaces so that I could envision the design easier. I had a small molded concrete bird bath that fit nicely in the center of one of these outlined spaces. Breaking up the space into smaller areas turned out to be very helpful. I already knew I



Path, frog pond, bird bath, Rufus; photo by L. Flenner

wanted to try a moss garden. The space between the rock path and the frog pond was a perfect size to try propagation with cookie size moss pieces to see if they would be able to live here. The proximity of the frog pond allows me to dip my watering can in and pull out water for frequent watering of the moss. This moss planting completely flies in the face of the garden plan rule that states “right plant, right place”. There is no ground moss growing naturally underneath these cedars. The stubborn gardener is ever hopeful and I have been successful in the past with putting a plant in the “wrong” spot.

I started to interview people I knew who have native plant gardens to find out if they used a garden design. The responses went from one end of the spectrum to the other. When I asked one woman, her response was an emphatic, “hell, no”. Another said “I just put plants in the ground, no plan”. At the other end were responses like, “Definitely, I have all the plants in blocks and fenced from the deer in my propagation garden”. Another person said, “I keep my plants contained, thinning out any that escape.”

So what are people doing? An idea frequently repeated was to get plants for all three seasons to provide continuous bloom in their garden design. This is close to fact, but the reality is each season has several blooming periods. I think of there being nine seasons, early Spring, Spring, and late Spring with the same triple season for Summer and Fall. So design becomes complicated if you’re trying to get continuous bloom. Grasses and sedges can provide attractive filler. To this end, in my new garden spot, I had some virginia wild rye (*Elymus virginicus*) and I really liked the way it looked. I kept it and put some rocks in front to add interest. I will put some shorter plants in front, like dittany (*Cunila origanoides*). The wild rye was the only plant that had chosen this spot so the garden design built itself around it. Other people also mentioned that they had a few plants that were doing well and they built their garden around them. Most people agreed that the location of the garden in relation to sunlight, soil, and topography were taken into consideration.

Another commonly held belief is to plant in threes and fives. Conversely, Wild Ones advises to “plant densely. The more plants you use, the more design impact you will achieve and the less mulching and watering is needed.”

Many people commented on the nomadic nature of native plants. They tend to move around and show up all over the place and even abandon their original site. One woman put it very well, “my plants design my garden, not me”. This characteristic of native plants demands that the gardener be flexible. In my earlier



Rock highlights, photo by L. Flenner

days of trying to control what plants grew where, my husband would say to me, “That plant looks great there, why are you moving it?” After a while I started following that advice. Although I will propagate a new site with plants that are abundant in an old site, I try to let the plant choose where to live. Now I think I need little reminder signs in my gardens - “Do Not Disturb”.

So what is the final word on garden design? Is it fact or fiction? I think the designs are useful for showing you plants that go together and will present well in their flowering stage. They may give you ideas of where to begin. In my opinion the best garden designs are in nature. Walk a lot in the woods, prairies, glades, wetlands and observe what plants are growing there. Rule out the invasive species, but try to recreate what you see. The native plant gardener has to plant outside the prescribed lines and also knows that not all roses are red and not all violets are blue.

References:

Wildones.org

<https://nativegardendesigns.wildones.org>

<https://grownative.org>

You Tube: Wild Ones Native Plants

<http://www.xerces.org>

Poetry Corner

With Apologies To William

by Robert Hendrickson 3GFarm, Hannibal, Missouri

To mow or not to mow... that is the question.

Whether 'tis nobler to be serf to the turf,
or proponent of the prairie...

to suffer the slings and arrows of lovers of lawns,

or to take arms against a sea of green.

And by opposing, end the noise and pollution.

No more.

To dream... ay, there's the rub.

For in that prairie what pollinators may come

when we have shuffled off this weekly chore...

must give us pause.

Too Wild, or not Too Wild

by Scott Woodbury

Reprinted from the August 2022 issue of Gateway Gardener magazine

It doesn't take long to find a yard in most neighborhoods that seems to have gone wild. Wild in the sense that it does not have the tidy trademarks of a conventional garden. No clipped bushes, no big blocks of crisp emerald lawn with neatly trimmed edges along the sidewalk. No perfectly oval Bradford pears or statuesque ornamental grasses. In the wild yard, lawns are diminished while wildflowers and grasses dominate. At times they grow wide, flirting with the sidewalk edge. They also grow densely together, in loosely defined groupings (if any at all). A diverse array of plants bloom in spring, summer, and fall, all without mulch. Their owners keep dried seed heads and grass leaves standing through winter, and in spring, cut them back tall with considerable stubble.

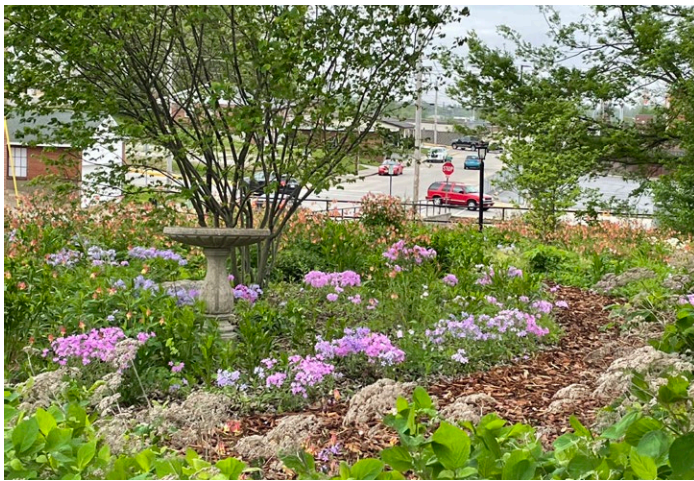
To the untrained eye, this landscape looks uncared for. It lacks the familiar touches that we have grown accustomed to. Like most people my age (which my teenage son says is “just old”), my sense of garden place was honed by conventional garden practices. Weed-free lawns, straight hedges and ornamental plants resistant to pests (i.e., beetles, bugs, ants, aphids, butterflies, moths, wasps, sawflies, bees and hoppers). What I experienced in my early horticulture career, led me to believe that wild gardens like these, were too wild for tame suburbs. Now when I see a wild gar-



Whitmire Wildflower Garden, photo by S. Woodbury

den, I see it differently. Natural fallen tree leaves laying in a garden bed strikes me as normal, because that's where Luna moths and woolly bear caterpillars over-winter in cocoons. When I see holes chewed in plant leaves, I hope to spot the caterpillar that chewed them, so I can see positive evidence of my attempts to wild the yard. When I take a walk and encounter a plant reaching into the sidewalk, I take notice. It slows me down and draws me in, as if the plant was tapping me on the toe to say, "hey human, slow down, enjoy the poppy mallows". I want to meet this owner some day and say thanks.

To me, these are worthy trademarks of fine gardening. These practices work for wild gardens and they can work in tidy conventional gardens too. After all, humans aren't the sole beneficiaries of a garden. We could promote more insect diversity by changing a few simple gardening practices. The birds we enjoy in spring depend on it, as we depend on the ethereal calls of songbirds to help wash away those late-winter blues. Happy wild gardening!



Taylor Twins Garden in Jackson, Missouri. Photo by S. Woodbury

Not getting the Missouri Native Plant Society organizational emails?

Most email clients have a "safe senders" mechanism for you to make sure that your email server always sends mail from our MONPS server to your inbox.

*Some just have you add our server to your "Contacts"

*Some have you create "Rules".

*Some have an actual "Safe Senders/Domains" area in the settings.

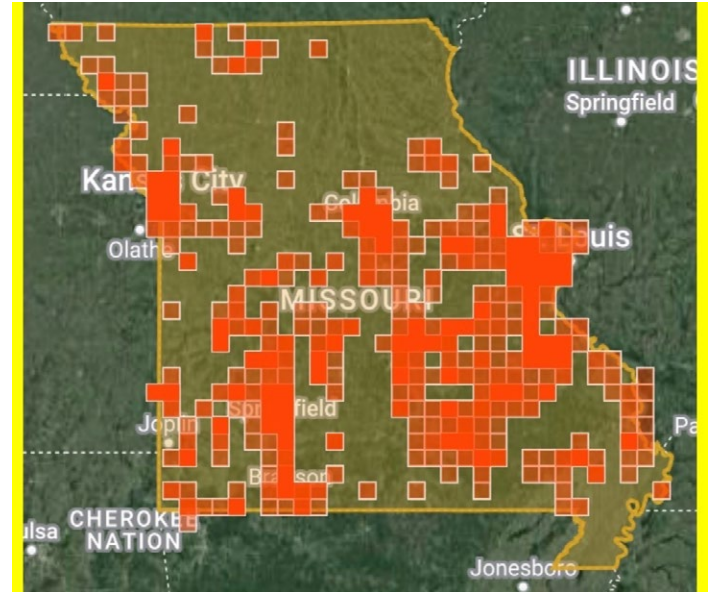
To ensure that you get the organizational emails please add these two domains to whatever your email's "safe senders" process is: monps.org and webapps.monps.org

OR: You may simply need to update your email address with us. If so, click this link: <https://monativeplants.org/ask-a-question/>

Missouri Botanists Big Year Results Are In!

by James Faupel and Caity Sims

The results of the Second Annual MO Botanists Big Year are in!!! The winners of 2022 are...



2022's MO Botanist Big Year reach across the state!!!

GRAND PRIZE - Most research grade species of plants -

1st place - (1100 research grade observations, 675 species) Nathan Aaron

2nd - (1080) Blake Pagnier

3rd - (876) Len Meier

4th - (829) Joanna Reuter

5th - (813) Donald Meier

The Explorer - Most observations overall (1856 observations, 1013 species) - Nathan Aaron

The Composer - Most research grade Asteraceae (224 observations, 93 species) - Blake Pagnier

The GrassMaster - Most research grade Poaceae (107 observations, 72 species) - Nathan Aaron

The FiddleHead - Most research grade Polypodiopsida (48 observations, 22 species) - Joanna Reuter

The SedgeHead - Most research grade Cyperaceae (61 observations, 40 species) - Nathan Aaron

The Traveller - Farthest spread across Missouri - Pete Kozich



and observations, competitors should remember to take as many descriptive photos as possible. Typical photos taken for any plant are closeups of the tops and undersides of flowers and leaves, the point where the leaf meets the stem, closeups of stems/bark/trunks, fruits if available, far away shots showing the plant's full form and habitat.... You probably see where I'm going with this. The more descriptive photos, the better the odds are of getting that full ID to species!

A big thank you to all of you who competed in the second year of the competition and also a HUGE round of applause to all of you who helped out identifying plants!!! We need more help with identification for this year! Our observations from this competition will help researchers track and better understand the flora of Missouri and how it changes over time. This data provided by our members will be publicly available, to help improve science and nature communication. We also hope to present more iNaturalist training opportunities again in the near future, to help new users get acquainted with using the website and phone app. We will continue to host these Big Years over many more years, and then will be able to compare data from each year's competition. We also hope to have even more and varied types of prizes in the future.

Join the current 2023 competition right now and enter your observations to help participate in citizen science! <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/missouri-botanists-big-year-2023>

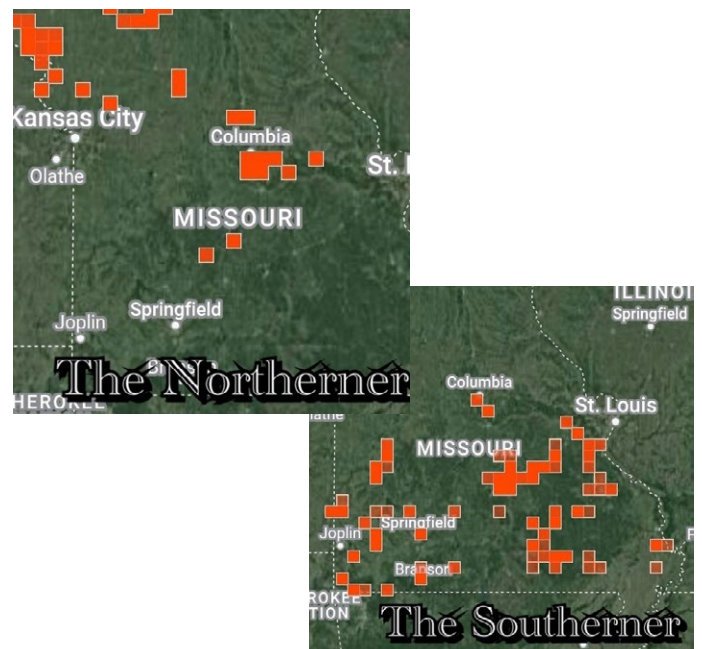
- The Northerner** - Farthest spread across Northern Missouri - Dillon Freiburger
- The Southerner** - Farthest spread across Southern Missouri - Nathan Aaron (second year in a row!)
- Most observed flowering plant** (72 specimens) - *Claytonia virginica*, spring beauty
- Most observed non-flowering plant** (42 specimens) - *Asplenium platyneuron*, ebony spleenwort

- Top Identifiers of Plants in Need-**
- 1st place** - (2098) Norman Murray
- 2nd** - (1336) Lee Elliot
- 3rd** - (933) Blake Pagnier
- 4th** - (899) Claire Ciafré
- 5th** - (586) Abel Kinser

The grand prize (hand lens and plant press) goes to MONPS member Nathan Aaron, who dethroned the 2021 champion, Rick Gray! Our top expert identifier, Norman Murray, dethroned last year's expert, Lee Elliot, and will be receiving a one-year membership to MONPS! Congratulations to all and well done! Your passion for getting outdoors and exploring the wonderful world of botany in our state will surely inspire many more to participate this year and in the years to follow. Thank you!

The second annual Missouri Botanists' Big Year Competition was a huge success! We increased from 36 participants observing 9,683 plants in 2021 to 68 participants observing 16,265 plants in 2022! Let's go for even more botanizing in 2023!!!

For future competitions, to improve identification



From the Editor

Apologies for the delay in getting this newsletter out--there always seems to be a huge sudden influx of work at this time of year. Anyway, thank you to our Assistant Editor, Pam Barnabee for getting everything in good shape before it came to me. Thanks also to our Board members who proofread each issue and all authors, chapter representatives, and other contributors. Please consider making a submission for a future Petal Pusher! Here is some information for submissions:

A. The theme for the July 2023 Petal Pusher is "Plant ID Resources" but other submissions are encouraged, especially Genus or Family descriptions ("Better know a genus/family"), Conundrum Corner, Invasive Tip of the Month, Name Change of the Month, Terminology, and Poetry Corner.

B. Send ONE email saying "here is my contribution on _____," and attach (don't embed) the following:

1) an article in Word format with photo captions at the end (no photos in the Word document) and your name in the text.

2) Images, in JPEG format--NOT in a document file.

C. Use only one space between sentences

D. Even short notes with pictures would be great!

E. Send to: pamela.barnabee@gmail.com (don't send them directly to me!)

F. Due date for the next issue is: June 20

**Thank you so much,
Michelle Bowe**

P.S. This time, we switched colors to pay homage to the newly coronated royalty of UK.

Do You Have a Plant Story?

Learn more about Missouri native plants at the newest feature on the MONPS website (monativeplants.org): Plant Stories. Do you have a favorite Missouri native plant? A photo you're particularly proud of? Please submit your story to pamela.barnabee@gmail.com for posting.

We Welcome Member Submissions!

The Petal Pusher wants YOU ... to write articles for the newsletter.

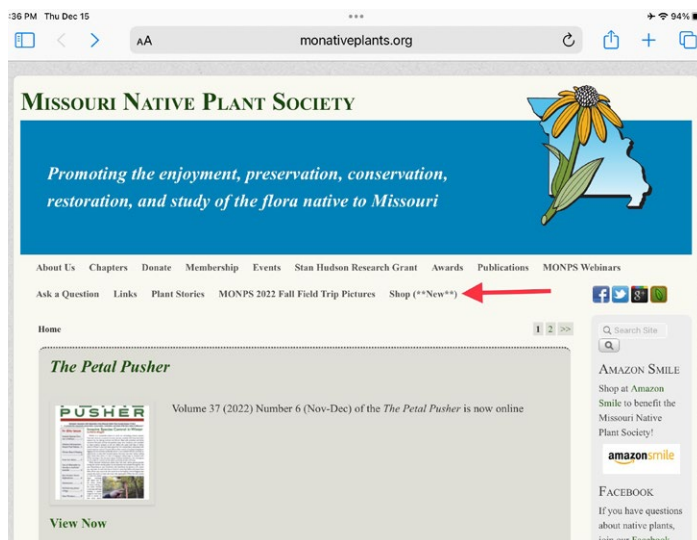
Consider these possibilities:

- Conundrum Corner: Tips on how to distinguish between tricky, look-alike species.
- Invasive Tip of the Month: How to identify and eradicate a particular invasive species.
- What's Cooking: Recipes using native Missouri plants.
- Name Change of the Month: Latin names, they keep on a-changin'; help us all stay up-to-date.
- Poetry Corner or Quotation Corner: Give us your suggestions for poems or quotes, or submit your original poetry. (Note that for poems, we must have permission from the publisher.)



New! Shop Online for Embroidered MONPS Logo Apparel

A new feature has been added to the MONPS website: from the "Shop" link on the menu bar of our home page (monativeplants.org), you'll be able to access our online store. Short-sleeved and long-sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts, and ball caps with embroidered MONPS logos are available in five colors. There's also a booney hat with embroidered logo, in dark brown. The tote bag has a direct-to-garment print of our logo. Our vendor, Fast Yowi, is located in Columbia, so you can pick up your order there if it's convenient, or have it shipped.



Seeking Nominations for 2023 MONPS Awards

Due May 15

The MONPS Awards Committee seeks nominations of people who have supported the preservation of Missouri's flora. MONPS offers five awards:

- 1) Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education Award, recognizing individuals who, through teaching, writing, or other activity have conveyed to others a significant appreciation and knowledge of Missouri's native flora.
- 2) Arthur Christ Research Award, recognizing an individual's significant contribution in furthering the knowledge of Missouri flora.
- 3) Plant Stewardship Award, recognizing 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, recognizing individuals who have provided exceptional service to the Society.
- 5) Plant Conservation Award, recognizing an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to the conservation or preservation of native plants or plant communities in Missouri. This award differs from the Plant Stewardship Award in that it is not tied to direct acquisition or management of tracts of land, but instead may recognize various types of outstanding achievements or efforts, such as conservation planning, advocacy, or new ways of looking at old problems.
- 6) Julian A. Steyermark Award, the Society's highest award, given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to any and all aspects of Missouri botany.

The deadline for nominations is May 15. Nominations should contain the full name of the nominee and the name of the person making the nomination, and they should set forth the contributions of the individual or organization that merits recognition. Award recipients need not be members of MONPS.

Please submit nominations to Awards Committee Chairwoman, Malissa Briggler.

Malissa Briggler
State Botanist
Missouri Dept of Conservation
2901 W. Truman Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-522-4115 ext. 3200
Malissa.Briggler@mdc.mo.gov

Seeking Donations for the Stan Hudson Research Grant

Could you help us support students who are conducting botanical research in Missouri? The Stan Hudson Research Grant is available to assist with funding for research projects conducted by college or university students under the supervision of a faculty member. The grant honors the late H. Stanton Hudson (1921–2002), a long-time 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. The grant is usually given annually.

To qualify for the Stan Hudson Research Grant, research must involve Missouri native plants in some way, but may have as its primary focus any pertinent subject area in plant biology, including conservation, ecology, physiology, systematics and evolution, etc. The grant may be used for any non-salary expenses relating to the proposed research, including travel, equipment, and supplies. At the conclusion of the project, grant recipients will be expected to prepare research results for publication in a scientific journal and to present their research at the Missouri Botanical Symposium, which is held in Rolla, Missouri each Fall. To learn more about the grant, check out this link to the [Missouri Native Plants website-Hudson Fund \(button below\)](#).

[Click here to make a donation](#) to the Hudson Fund
Any amount is appreciated!

New Members

St. Louis

Gregg Bogosian, Chesterfield
Natalie Konig, Richmond Heights
Sherry McCowan, St. Louis
Lisa Picker, Webster Groves

Hawthorn

Catherine Doyle, Columbia
Hannah Lee, Columbia
Jane Phillips, Columbia
Jane Smith, Columbia
Maggie Center & Noah Glaser, Columbia
Therese Folsom, Columbia
Judy Ann Fry, Columbia
Leanne Tippet Mosby, Hartsburg
Marilyn Keenan, Columbia

Kansas City

Robert Burton, Liberty
Corbin Rowland, Kansas City

New Members, cont.

Southwest

Jocelyn Downs, Seymour
Ryan Edwards, Ozark
Jared Robinson, Republic
David Darby, Kisse Mill

Ozark

David Darby, Kisse Mill

State Level

Mark Jenkins, Nevada
Cathy Holloway, Winfield

Chapter Reports and Events

HAWTHORN

by Cindy Squire, Chapter Representative

13 March. Zoom meeting with Hummingbird presentation by Veronica Mecko. We learned about the common types of hummingbirds of the area and about a few possible birds of the western United States that can show up.

16 March. Monthly group lunch at First Watch stadium location.

17 March. Work in adopt a spot.

26 March. Mosey at Carol Leigh's native area. Spring ephemerals were starting to emerge and a walk to the creek was included.

8 April. Bradford Farms Plant Sale was a sunny but windy sale with many attendees.

10 April. In person meeting at Kiwanis Park with Removal of Invasive Species presentation by Stephen Bybee. This included a walk around the park, the park's history, and viewing of spring ephemerals.

14 April. Work in the adopt a spot.

20 April. Monthly group lunch at First Watch stadium location.

23 April. Earth Day plant sale in downtown Columbia. A brisk day for education about including natives to the Columbia city residents.

Upcoming Chapter Events

7 May. 100 acre woods joint field trip with Columbia Audubon Society
Adopt a Spot Work Days are dependent on weather - check emails

8 May. No meeting.

10 May. Plant Sale at Songbird Station.

18 May. Monthly group lunch at First Watch stadium location.

HAWTHORN, cont.

20 May. Plant Sale at Bass Pro.

10 June. Mosey at Jane Haslag's restored prairie.

12 June. No meeting.

15 June. Monthly group lunch at Uprise Bakery at 10 Hitt Street.

See www.columbianativeplants.org for an updated posting of newsletters and activity details.

PARADOXA

By Pam Barnabee, President

A mid-March prescribed burn left our planned visit to Kaintuck Hollow iffy for viewing spring ephemerals, so we moved our first walkabout of the year, on April 11, to Lane Spring Recreation Area south of Rolla. It turned out to be a good choice - along Blossom Rock Trail, we found a variety of wildflowers, an area carpeted with southern fragile fern (*Cystopteris protrusa*), and loads of blooming pawpaw trees (*Asimina triloba*).

Upcoming Events

Saturday, May 6, 9:00am - 12:30pm, Field Trip to Meramec State Park, Sullivan.

With a goal of finding yellow lady slipper orchids (*Cypripedium parviflorum*) in bloom, we'll meet at the parking lot by Fisher Cave at 9:00 a.m. We'll explore other trails in the park, as time and energy allow, and be on our way home by 12:30 p.m. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes for hiking, bring a drink, a sack lunch, and bug spray!! If you would like to carpool, we'll be meeting in the Rolla Kroger parking lot and departing at 8:00 a.m. If you're willing to drive or if you're looking for a ride, please contact me.

Saturday, May 20, 8:00 a.m. - Noon, Spring Native Plant Sale at Big Lots parking lot. Volunteers needed as early as 7:00 a.m. to help set up and then throughout the morning. Our vendors will be Prairie Hill Farm, Doolittle Gardens, and Ned's Nesting Boxes. We'll also be selling shrubs from the MDC Nursery, and any native plants that members contribute. And we'll have an educational display promoting native plants. Please contact paradoxarolla@gmail.com if you're able to help.

Tuesday, June 13, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Walkabout at Spring

Creek Gap Conservation Area.

Spring Creek Gap is located about 14 miles north of Rolla on Highway 63. Our chapter namesake, *Echinacea paradoxa* (yellow coneflower), can be found there, as well as many other beautiful wildflowers. Save the date - details to follow!

PERENNIS

By Stephen Sutter

Steve Schell is the new Natural History Biologist in the Southeast Region, Missouri Department of Conservation. Steve has volunteered to assist with field trips and other duties within our Chapter. He has already put out a challenge to find someone more familiar than he is, with Trail of Tears State Park. Can anyone answer his challenge? Maybe we should go to Trail of Tears to see how good he is!

If you would like to join us as we go exploring around southeast Missouri, please contact Stephen Sutter at—stephen.sutter@sbcglobal.net. We may even venture across the mighty Mississippi to southwest Illinois. Let us know where you would like to explore. We may even be able to help Steve get acquainted with some of the natural areas around southeast Missouri. We would like to plan a biological exploration hike in the next couple of months.

A big thank you to Rick Gray and the St. Louis Chapter. The St. Louis Chapter meets usually monthly for a program with an outstanding guest presenter. They broadcast their meetings live via Zoom. Rick has invited the members of the Perennis Chapter to virtually participate in these meetings. The Perennis Chapter greatly appreciate this opportunity. Our membership is very small. With our small numbers, if we had a program with a guest speaker, it would be hard to get enough in attendance to make it worthwhile for a speaker.

We would like to see the Perennis Chapter grow. If you have any suggestions, please contact Stephen Sutter.

ST. LOUIS

by Rick Gray, President

The St. Louis Chapter met in-person with a Zoom simulcast on March 22nd and enjoyed a presentation by Ted MacRae featuring his photography and commentary on a selection of glade plant species growing at Victoria Glades in Jefferson County.

April 26th, we met at 7:00 p.m. in-person at the Webster Groves Public Library with a Zoom simulcast. The program included presentations by Dr. Kyra Krakos of Maryville University and from four students from her Botany lab. The title of the ensemble program is "Seeing Beyond the Wall of

St Louis, cont.

Green: Cross-discipline Botany

Upcoming Events

Chapter meetings in 2023 are planned for the fourth Wednesday of each month (January – October) beginning at 7:00 pm at the Webster Groves Public Library. We also plan to broadcast the meetings live via Zoom.

SOUTHWEST

by Yours Truly

Due to extreme flooding and road turmoil, we were not able to have a Wildflower walk on April 9, but a large group of folks were able to attend a field trip to Bull Mills on April 22. Our group included Master Naturalists, Audubon Society members, students from Missouri State and Drury and, of course, our MONPS chapter!

We had a great time and started filming field trip videos that included "Dr. Bowe" teaching her class how to eat stinging nettle. We were delighted to see all of the *Delphinium*, false rue anemones and waterleafs in bloom as well as the wild ginger and Jacob's ladder.

Spring field trip photos (from me)! Below, amethyst shooting star; Right: green violet; Right bottom: natural bridge a Ha ha Tonka



Missouri State University students at Bull Mills next to an old grindstone (Kipfer property along Bull Creek)



Missouri Native Plant Society Membership Form

Name	
Address	
City, State, ZIP	
Phone	
Email	

Membership Level (check one):

	Student	\$5
	Goldenrod	\$10
	Sunflower	\$25
	Bluebell	\$50
	Blazing Star	\$100

Chapter dues (optional, check all that apply):

	Empire Prairie (Saint Joseph)	\$5
	Hawthorn (Columbia)	\$5
	Kansas City	\$5
	Osage Plains (Clinton)	\$5
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	Paradoxa (Rolla)	\$5
	Perennis (Cape Girardeau)	\$5
	Saint Louis	\$5
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 Missouri Native Plant Society
 PO Box 440353
 Saint Louis MO 63144-4353

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Missouri Native Plant Society

PO BOX 440353
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

President

Malissa Briggler
10297 CR 371
New Bloomfield, MO 65063

Vice President

Hilary Haley
17376 West State Highway W
Eagleville, MO 64442

Secretary and Petal Pusher

Assistant Editor
Pam Barnabee
34653 White Oak Rd
Plato, MO 65552

Treasurer

Bob Siemer
74 Conway Cove Drive
Chesterfield, MO 63017

Membership

Ann Earley
P.O. Box 440353
St. Louis, MO 63144-4353

Past President

Dana Thomas
1530 E Farm Rd 96
Springfield MO 65803

Board Members

Justin Thomas (2020–2023)
1530E Farm Rd 96
Springfield MO 65803

Mike Skinner (2020–2023)
167 South Peachtree
Republic, MO 65738

Bruce Schuette (2019–2025)
303 Spring Church Rd.
Troy, MO 63379

Rick Gray (2021–2024)
6 Montauk Court
St. Louis MO 63146

Steve Buback (2021–2024)
MDC NW Regional Office
701 James McCarthy Dr
St. Joseph, MO 64507

Meg Engelhardt (2022-2025)
Meg.engelhardt@mobot.org

Missouriensis Editor

Doug Ladd
Missouri Botanical Garden
4344 Shaw Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63110

Petal Pusher Editor

Michelle Bowe
901 S. National
Springfield MO 65897
mbowe@MissouriState.edu

Distribution Manager

Rex Hill
4 Grantwood Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123

Archives

Rex Hill
4 Grantwood Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123

Webmaster

Jerry Barnabee
34653 White Oak Rd
Plato, MO 65552
www.monativeplants.org
www.monativeplantsociety.org

Environment and Education

John Oliver
4861 Gatesbury Dr
St. Louis, MO 63128

Chapter Representatives

Empire Prairie
vacant

Hawthorn
Cindy Squire
cysquire@me.com

Kansas City
Cécile Lagandré
6040 Wornall Rd., KCMO 64113

Osage Plains
Casey Burks
1080 SE 915P Rd
Deepwater, MO 64740

Ozarks
Susan Farrington,
Interim Rep.

Paradoxa
Jerry Barnabee
34653 White Oak Rd
Plato, MO 65552

Perennis
Stephen Sutter
stephen.sutter@sbcglobal.net

Saint Louis
Position open
Interested?
Contact Rick Gray

Southwest
Michelle Bowe
but help needed!
901 S. National
Springfield MO 65897

To contact the Missouri Native Plant Society, please [click the "Have a Question" link](#) on our website.

"In nature nothing exists alone."

--Rachel Carson