A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF THE
MISSOURI NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY:
1978–2009

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The present summary of important events in the history of the Missouri Native Plant Society is intended to expand and update a more in-depth historical account that was compiled by the author and published on the occasion of the Society’s twentieth anniversary in 1999 (Missouriensis, Volume 20).

1978
John Wylie and James Henry Wilson of the Missouri Department of Conservation’s Natural History Section invited interested professional and amateur botanists to Jefferson City to discuss the possibility of forming some kind of a native plant society.

October
At a meeting of botanists to discuss the status of rare plants in Missouri, Wylie and Wilson offered to assemble, in the spring of 1979, an ad hoc steering committee to plan an organizational meeting for a native plant society.

1979
March 30
Eight members of an Ad Hoc Steering Committee of the Native Plant Society met in Jefferson City to discuss the future of such an organization and write a draft set of by-laws. Group also nominated a slate of officers for the Society. Paul Nelson of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Jim H. Wilson of the Missouri Department of Conservation were asked to prepare a program and arrange for a centrally located site for a native plant society organizational meeting.

June 2
Approximately 60 people met at the Coulter Science Center on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton to launch formally the Missouri Native Plant Society (MONPS). By-laws were adopted and first board members elected. Society newsletter name changed to Missouriensis.

Summer
First issue of Missouriensis published. This issue contained a call for an inventory of the plants of Missouri.
September 1  First meeting of the Missouri Native Plant Society Board of Directors (BOD).

November 9  MONPS officially recognized by state of Missouri as a General Not For Profit Corporation, and the Missouri Secretary of State certified the articles of incorporation of the Missouri Native Plant Society.

December 1  Second meeting of MONPS BOD established important precedents governing the meetings of the Society: future meetings of the BOD would be held in different parts of the state, and part of the meeting would be field trips in the local area. Julian A. Steyermark was designated the first Honorary Life Member of MONPS.

1980
June 7  First annual meeting. BOD agreed to sponsor a project suggested by Wallace R. Weber of Southwest Missouri State University for a manual of the Missouri flora which would update Julian Steyermark’s *Flora of Missouri*, and be more readily useable in the field.

Fall  MONPS had matured to the point that certain organizational limitations had become apparent. In an attempt to correct those deficiencies, BOD created six committees: editorial, field trips, membership, nominations, political action, and inventory research. Political action title shortly changed to environmental action as being more indicative of the committee’s real focus.

1981
March  BOD approved the Society’s suggested logo design submitted by Mr. James of Kansas City. BOD agreed to examine subject of establishing local chapters of the Society.

June 12  BOD amended Society’s by-laws to set the procedures for the organization of regional or district societies of MONPS.

Winter  Winter *Missouriensis* (Vol. 2, No. 3) issued invitation to anyone or any organization that had an interest in becoming an Affiliate of MONPS. It also carried announcement about plans for updating Missouri plant records, with documented records to be published in the Society’s journal.

1982
March  BOD agreed to purchase of cloth patches and paper decals of the Society’s logo. Group in southern Illinois applied to become the first MONPS local chapter. BOD granted this request “with pleasure” and Southern Illinois Native Plant Society became first MONPS local chapter.

June 5  MONPS conducted a well-attended botanical inventory workshop demonstrating how to construct a plant press, and providing information about drying plants, instructions on the ethics of plant collecting, plus the
procedures and locations where plants could be collected.

June
BOD announced that the IRS finally had accepted MONPS as a Not for Profit organization with all the privileges and responsibilities that status entailed.

Summer
Missouriensis summer issue (Vol. 4, No.1) printed first fruits of the effort sponsored by MONPS for an updated botanical inventory of the state with the publication of some of the county plant records gathered in the MONPS inventory project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>Joint meeting of MONPS and the Missouri Prairie Foundation at the Missouri Botanical Garden.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>April</td>
<td>MONPS cosponsored, with the Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, a wildflower workshop at the Lake of the Ozarks, with about 450 people attending. MONPS not only actively sponsored the workshop, but also provided three of the speakers.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>BOD decided to send a questionnaire to all Society members soliciting input as to where the members wanted the organization to go. Over 150 questionnaires were eventually returned, with most respondents stating the most important function of MONPS should be the preservation of plants, wild places, and plant communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>BOD adopted a resolution favoring state legislation that would, for the first time, protect native plants in Missouri. This bill was subsequently passed and signed by the governor.</td>
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<td>January 10</td>
<td>Organizational meeting held at Missouri Botanical Garden for the creation of a St. Louis chapter of MONPS.</td>
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<td>February 23</td>
<td>St. Louis chapter of MONPS officially founded with the election of local officers and the drafting of a letter to the state BOD requesting recognition as a local chapter of the Society.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>BOD granted official recognition of St. Louis local chapter. BOD noted that southern Illinois local chapter of MONPS had become an independent organization no longer affiliated with MONPS, and had expanded state-wide in Illinois, becoming the Illinois Native Plant Society.</td>
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<td>Spring</td>
<td>MONPS made second foray into political action when BOD agreed to support proposed amendment to Missouri Constitution to levy an additional one-tenth of one percent sales tax to be used for state parks and soil and water conservation purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>BOD directed MONPS president to appoint an ad hoc committee to develop an awards program.</td>
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June

Ad hoc awards committee recommended to BOD the establishment of four awards: (1) the Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award, (2) a research award (later renamed the Art Christ Memorial Research Award), (3) a plant stewardship award, and (4) the Julian A. Steyermark Award, the Society’s highest award, presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to any or all aspects of Missouri botany.

August 7

Missouri voters approved the state constitutional amendment to levy an additional sales tax for state parks and soil and water conservation. John Karel, Director of Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Historic Preservation, wrote a letter to MONPS thanking its members for their support on this issue.

Autumn

Name of old Environmental Action Committee changed to Environmental Action and Education Committee to reflect change in duties and focus.

December

BOD decided that MONPS should have two publications. *Missouriensis* was reduced to just two issues a year, and a new bi-monthly newsletter was created to keep the membership of the Society more informed in a timely manner. BOD agreed to proposal to provide grant up to $250 to students or Society members for expense money toward a project which would add to the general knowledge about Missouri’s flora.

1986

January

First issue of MONPS newly-created newsletter distributed. One of the items in that newsletter was the announcement of a newsletter naming contest. Society’s membership eventually selected Wally Weber’s suggestion of *Petal Pusher* as the title for the newsletter.

March

MONPS editorial committee met to decide which types of information and articles would go into the Society’s two different publications.

April

Three new local chapters announced: Columbia (Hawthorne), Jefferson City, Kansas City. A fourth, at Kirksville, followed later that year. MONPS President David Castaner appointed a committee to review the role of local chapters regarding MONPS dues structure and representation on the state BOD.

Summer

First issue of MONPS newsletter under title *Petal Pusher* published (Vol. 1, No. 4). Official announcement of MONPS grant program appeared in *Petal Pusher*.
**June**  
First MONPS awards presented. The Julian Steyermark Award was presented to Art Christ. The Erna Eisendrath Memorial Education Award to Edgar Dennison. The Research Award to Bill Summers, and the Stewardship Award to Fred Hussman. Only one proposal for grant money was received, and $100 was awarded to Linda Ellis, Society member, for travel to search for rare plants in Stone and Taney Counties.

**July**  
Old State Inventory Committee, recently renamed Missouri Flora Atlas Committee, met to discuss goals and future of that effort. Committee determined that immediate goal was to produce an Atlas of the Flora of Missouri, but the estimated time for completion was seriously underestimated.

**November**  
By-laws Review Committee met and proposed that by-laws be amended to provide for each local chapter to have one voting representative on the state board. BOD, by mail vote, accepted this proposal in late 1986.

**December**  
BOD agreed unanimously that MONPS join the Conservation Federation of Missouri as an affiliate organization.

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### 1987

**January**  
Springfield local chapter of MONPS formed.

**March**  
*Petal Pusher* carried announcement that the Missouri Department of Conservation had entered an agreement with Missouri Botanical Garden to update Steyermark’s *Flora of Missouri*.

**October**  
U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management gave tentative approval to allow mining in Mark Twain National Forest. MONPS BOD voted to oppose this mining proposal and directed the Society’s Environmental and Education Committee Chairman to write a letter to that effect to the Mark Twain National Forest Supervisor, and encourage local MONPS members to write letters opposing that effort as well. Before the issue was resolved, the company withdrew its request to mine.

**December**  
BOD re-examined whole issue of the Society’s finances and dues structure. President Doug Ladd and Treasurer Mervin Wallace submitted a draft financial plan to place MONPS on a sustainable healthy footing. BOD decided to delete old categories of Sponsoring and Sustaining membership, but added a Lifetime category for a one-time payment of $200.

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### 1989

**March**  
MONPS again became involved in political arena. Article in *Petal Pusher* encouraged membership to write letters in support of two bills pending in Missouri
General Assembly. One would prohibit sale and
distribution of purple loosestrife; other would make it
illegal to pick or dig wild plants from public or private
land without the landowner’s permission. First bill
became law, effective August 28, 1989; second bill
never made it out of committee.

June 17  MONPS held a Missouri Wildflower Day at Coulter
Science Center of Westminster College to celebrate the
Society’s tenth anniversary. Festivities included
speakers and field trips; exhibits from such groups as
the Center for Plant Conservation and The Nature
Conservancy; and a concluding banquet where the
award recipients for 1989 were announced.

Summer  MONPS made its first venture into merchandising by
producing for sale a MONPS T-shirt with an
illustration by Linda Ellis of royal catchfly (*Silene
regia*), a plant on Missouri’s watch list.

September  MONPS President Bill Summers suggested creation of
a slide bank of Missouri plants for MONPS members
to use for presentations.

December  On a divided vote, BOD agreed to support proposed
Natural Stream Act for Missouri.

December  By-laws committee appointed to do a complete review
of the existing MONPS by-laws, suggest needed
changes, and bring the entirety into conformity.

1990

June  Steve Timme volunteered to curate the MONPS slide
bank.

December  BOD directed Jack Harris, as co-chairman of new
Environment and Education Committee, to present
policy recommendations to the Missouri Department
of Conservation on the future of Forest 44, a recently
acquired conservation area near St. Louis.

1991

Early  After a long and contentious discussion, BOD decided
not to take a stand on the upcoming appointment to
Missouri’s Conservation Commission, but to
encourage the members to make their views known.
BOD did adopt (after another extended and intense
discussion) a proposed profile which they believed the
candidate should match.

September  Wally Weber announced that a preliminary draft of the
Missouri Flora Atlas was now ready to be printed. An
index to volumes 1–10 of Missouriensis (compiled by
Alice and Paul Redfearn) was published.

December  New local chapter formed in Mt. View area and took
the name Ozark Showy chapter.

1992

February 29  Special day-long meeting of BOD and interested
members to take an in-depth look at the Society, its
objectives, priorities, and short-term and long-range
goals. Twenty-one people from throughout the state attended and agreed to several recommendations. Joint meeting of MONPS and Kansas Wildflower Society entitled *Threshold of the Prairie Symposium*. Two-day event included speakers, field trips, book displays, and social gatherings, which gave members from both groups opportunities to share ideas, concerns, and a general interest in native plants.

**September**

**December**

BOD suggested changing the membership configuration of MONPS in three basic ways: (1) everyone who was a member of the state Society would become automatically a member of one of the local chapters, (2) membership category of *State Member Only* would be abolished, (3) dues would be uniform for all members instead of each local chapter setting its own dues on top of state dues. These proposals were sent to local chapters for members to discuss.

**December**

Research Committee proposed, and BOD agreed, to establish a file to collect floristic information about various sites in Missouri. The Missouri Botanical Garden agreed to house the files, which should insure the long-term accessibility and protection of the materials.

**1993**

**February**

MONPS was one of 13 local conservation, environment, nursery, and landscape organizations involved in sponsoring a Naturescaping Symposium held at the Powder Valley Nature Center in St. Louis, with the Missouri Department of Conservation as host. There were over 230 attendees.

**April**

After taking proposed changes in membership structure to local chapters, BOD accepted first two changes (see above) without much debate, but there was considerable dissent about the acceptability of standardized fees for all chapters. After further local discussion, this change was adopted in June 1993, but objections to forcing a local chapter to collect dues was so vehement that the requirement was later dropped.

**April**

BOD authorized Jack Harris, co-chairman of the Environment and Education Committee, to write a letter to the appropriate Missouri legislators to support a bill that would make it a misdemeanor to dig or remove plants or plant parts form real property of the Missouri State Highway and Transportation Department without permission. Purpose of the bill was to stop the practice of the commercial digging of wildflowers from Missouri’s roadsides. Combined with bill relating to noxious weeds, the legislation passed and was signed into law.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>Missouri Governor signed law against digging or removing plants from Missouri roadsides. (see above)</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>BOD approved a brochure and badge for the MONPS Wildflower Badge Program which had been developed by the St. Louis chapter. Badge could not be purchased; it had to be earned by completing a certain number of exercises relating to native plants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Revised MONPS by-laws adopted by BOD.</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>BOD approved publication of the <em>Missouri Flora Atlas</em> so that it would be ready for the Missouri Native Plant Week coming in June 1994. Unfortunately, the publication did not make that deadline.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>After an extensive discussion about finances, BOD concluded that Society dues were meant to cover operational costs of the Society and publication expenses. Other programs or activities would have to be covered by other fund raisers.</td>
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**1994**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td><em>Petal Pusher</em> published a <em>Regional Sources of Native Plants</em> list.</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Steve Timme reported that the MONPS slide bank held over 13,000 slides, with each one detailing the species presented, and its habitat, distribution, and flowering time.</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan signed proclamation declaring that June 5-11, 1994, would be Missouri Native Plant Week in observation of the 15th anniversary of the founding of MONPS. A bandana with a design by Linda Ellis was produced to commemorate the anniversary.</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>BOD created a Nursery Guidelines Policy Committee to examine the Society’s relationship to nurseries, the public, and the mission of MONPS.</td>
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<td>Autumn</td>
<td>MONPS asked to present testimony in favor of continuing the Missouri sales taxes for state parks and soils. BOD asked Jack Harris, co-chairman of the Environment and Education Committee, to do that on behalf of the Society.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Nursery Guidelines Policy Committee made its recommendations to the MONPS BOD. The committee proposed two goals: (1) follow the lead of other state native plant societies and send questionnaires to nurseries about their propagation policies and practices, and (2) publish guidelines for consumers citing what questions should be asked of nurseries. After long discussion, BOD concluded that MONPS should provide information and advisory literature to assist people in making wise selections and purchases of native plants, but that the Society should not...</td>
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presume to question or approve the activities of enterprises in their business practices.

1995 & 1996
MONPS became heavily involved in the Missouri initiative petition campaign to continue the sale tax funding for state parks and soil and water conservation.

1995
April
After years of ad hoc measures, BOD adopted *MONPS Fund Raising Guidelines* as the official policy of the Society governing fund-raising activities. New local chapter of MONPS, the Osage Plains Chapter, formed in the Clinton area.

Spring
BOD established fifth MONPS award, this one to recognize a member’s service to the Society itself.

Spring
BOD agreed to become a *Cooperating Member* of the newly created Federal Native Plant Conservation Committee, a network of federal agencies and other organizations interested in working to increase the appreciation of the value of native plants, and to facilitate the conservation of native plants and their habitats.

November 10
MONPS treasurer received an inquiry, via electronic mail, about membership information, the first incoming electronic mail to MONPS from outside the Society.

November
The e-mail addresses of all MONPS board members who had electronic mail capability published in *Petal Pusher* for first time.

December
BOD agreed to donate $350 (roughly the equivalent of $1 per member) to the Citizens Committee formed to help finance the campaign to renew the sales tax funding for state parks and soil and water conservation.

1996
January
*Petal Pusher* carried long article by Jack Harris, co-chairman MONPS Environment and Education Committee, on the initiative campaign for state parks. He explained the origin and necessity of the campaign and encouraged Society members to get involved in support.

April
In an attempt to come to terms with the variety of issues that came before the Society each year, especially those that needed to be resolved between state board meetings, the BOD approved the following guidelines: (1) MONPS should be active on matters and issues relating to botany, (2) policy or position statements that could not be reviewed by the entire BOD at a regularly scheduled meeting should be agreed upon by at least two members of the board in addition to the MONPS member proposing the statement, and (3) issues and subject areas beyond
those noted above should be brought to the attention of the board at a regularly scheduled meeting whenever possible.

April
BOD agreed to become a member of the national coalition pushing the *Teaming with Wildlife* proposal which would charge a modest tax for certain outdoor equipment, with the revenue generated going into a wildlife diversity fund that would be dispensed to the states by various kinds of matching grants.

May 31–June 2
MONPS held joint meeting with the Illinois Native Plant Society at Cape Girardeau, Missouri, with various activities on both sides of the Mississippi River.

May
Pamela Olsen earned the first MONPS Wear the *Coneflower* badge.

September
BOD decided to have a Home Page on the Internet.

September
Once petition campaign for state parks was successful in getting enough signatures to get the measure on the ballot, the issue now became convincing people to vote to continue the sales tax. BOD agreed to contribute $300 to the Parks and Soils Coalition to help pay for publicity in support of a “Yes” vote in November.

September
For years the Missouri Department of Conservation had maintained and distributed a *Regional Sources of Native Plants List*. In the mid-90’s, that agency decided it could no longer continue to do so. A representative from that agency asked MONPS to assume the responsibility for that list. After an extensive discussion, the BOD agreed to this request. MONPS President Larry Morrison appointed a committee to investigate the issues and return to the board with suggestions as to what the Society’s policy should be regarding this list and some of the problems associated with it.

November
Missouri voters, by almost a two to one margin, voted to continue the state sales tax funding for parks and soil and water conservation.

December
BOD decided that the *Regional Sources of Native Plants List* should be *self-selecting*, i.e., if a nursery claimed it carried native plants, then MONPS would accept that claim at face value.

December
BOD decided to create a two-part brochure on native plants. It to educate the public about some of the broader issues involved, the first part of this brochure would provide information about the ethical practices regarding the propagation and sale of natives, a discussion of why natives were good choices, and other educational information. The second part would contain the actual list of nurseries and seed sources.
First MONPS service award presented to Pat and Jack Harris for: “Their dedication and outstanding contributions to all aspects of the Missouri Native Plant Society.”

Because of the difficulty in attracting publishable material, the BOD authorized the editors of *Missouriensis* to produce only one issue annually.

MONPS sources of native plants information turned into draft copies of a series of tri-fold brochures, each dealing with a specific topic. These drafts would be reviewed by the BOD then put into final form.

BOD authorized ordering of lapel pins with the Society’s logo on them. These pins would be used for various promotional and incentive programs.

MONPS introduced series of *Fact Sheets* about native plants. Initially there were five such sheets: (1) basic information about native plants, (2) responsible buying, (3) herbaceous plant sources, (4) grass sources, (5) tree/shrub sources. Later in the year, three additional fact sheets became available: (6) native plant suppliers, (7) butterfly gardening using native plants, and (8) landscaping with native shrubs and small trees.

BOD decided, reluctantly, to dissolve officially the Ozark Showy and Kirksville local chapters of MONPS. In both areas there had been no local chapter activities for several years.

MONPS financial base was strong enough that not all its funds were needed for day-to-day operations. Accordingly, the BOD directed the treasurer to invest $4,000 in a 12-month certificate of deposit.

World Conservation Union asked if MONPS would be interested in becoming a representative on the North American Plant Specialist Group. BOD believed the request was both an honor and opportunity and readily accepted. MONPS President Larry Morrison appointed George Yatskievych as the Society’s representative.

Mike Currier, Research Steward for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources State Parks Division, approached the BOD and asked for MONPS to assist in plant survey and monitoring in Missouri’s state parks. Specifically, he requested MONPS members’ assistance in performing an updated inventory of state-listed plant species that might occur in Missouri’s state parks.

MONPS home page transferred successfully to the University of Missouri’s Web site.
Missouriensis, Volume 30  2009

Summer
Joint meeting with the Iowa Native Plant Society. Activities followed the now familiar pattern of field trips in both states and the opportunity for members of both societies to discuss mutual interests, concerns, programs, and future plans.

Autumn
Announcement made that Teaming with Wildlife initiative, which MONPS had endorsed in April 1996, never received enough backing in Congress to be enacted.

December
BOD changed MONPS fiscal year from January 1–December 31 to July 1–June 30 so that the Society’s fiscal year would correspond to the Society’s election cycle. To ease the transition to the new system, the BOD resolved that the new fiscal year would not take effect until July 1, 2000.

December
BOD agreed to offer at the International Botanical Congress meeting in St. Louis in 1999 a $250 prize, in the Society’s name, for the best botanical artwork whose subject was native to the Midwestern United States.

December
MONPS agreed to join the Grasslands Coalition, a collection of groups interested in prairies and their conservation and restoration.

Winter
Chinquapin, the newsletter of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society, featured an article on MONPS in its Winter 1998 issue (Vol. 6, No. 4).

1999
April
MONPS formalized what had been an undeclared policy and decreed that Petal Pusher would not accept paid advertisements. MONPS added images of Missouri native plants to its Web page.

June
MONPS celebrated its 20th anniversary. At that time, the Society had 334 members, and was exchanging newsletters with 34 other organizations.

Summer
July–August Missouri Botanical Garden Bulletin (Vol. 87, No. 4) carried an article about the International Botanical Congress meeting in St. Louis, and specifically mentioned the monetary prize that MONPS was offering. MONPS added a non-monetary Honorable Mention award to its art prize. This award was won by Mary C. Bauschelt of Cambria, Wisconsin, for her watercolor of bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis). The winner of the MONPS art award, and the monetary prize that accompanied it, was Robin A. Jess of Edison, New Jersey, for her watercolor of pitcher plant (Sarracenia purpurea).

August
MONPS operated an exhibit booth during the XVI International Botanical Congress. The Missouri Botanical Garden was the operations center and the exhibition and meetings were held at the Americas
Center in St. Louis, MO for the period 2–6 August. An estimated 5,000 professional botanists from around the globe attended this once-every-six-years Congress. Carl Darigo, Sue Hollis, and Jack Harris passed out literature, answered questions, and sold MONPS T-shirts to interested parties from Brazil, Australia, China, et al. MONPS was the only U.S. Native Plant Society to have a Native Plant promotional booth at the International Congress.

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<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>Modern technology provided the opportunity to streamline and expand the way the MONPS BOD handled time-sensitive issues during the intervals between the quarterly meetings. The BOD decided that henceforth the MONPS President should query board members via electronic mail and the decision of the board would be determined based on the responses received.</th>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>BOD adopted policy that the MONPS Website would not display for-profit commercial information or links to for-profit sites.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>BOD voted unanimously to enroll MONPS as a Friend of the Center for Plant Conservation, a national organization whose mission is: “To conserve and restore the rare native plants of the United States.”</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>BOD decided to name MONPS Service Award in honor of John E. Wiley.</td>
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<td>2001–2009</td>
<td>Nels Holmberg, representing MONPS, enters agreement to collaborate in a program organized by the Audubon Society and Meramec Community College. MONPS will conduct native plant workshops annually as a part of the Master Naturalist Certificate Program offered by the College. Various members of the MONPS act as instructors. 24 workshops have been offered to date.</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Membership page, with renewal form, added to Society’s Web page.</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Board member Paul McKenzie conducted a grass identification workshop for anyone interested as part of the quarterly board meeting.</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>MONPS Fact Sheets added to MONPS Web page as PDF files which could be downloaded or printed.</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>Missouri Department of Conservation approached MONPS about applying for a grant through the Partnership for Wildlife program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Such grants required a partnership between a state agency and a private organization working together. MONPS BOD agreed it was interested in pursuing the application.</td>
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September  
After a long and convoluted development of nearly 20 years, the *Atlas of Missouri Vascular Plants* was finally completed and ready for sale. The *Atlas* information was also made available for free over the World Wide Web.

September  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Parks Division, invited MONPS representative to attend a meeting to discuss wild area policy. BOD agreed to participate and send a representative.

September  
Grass Identification Workshop—Identifying Missouri Grasses was conducted to a full enrollment at Meramec Community College, 20–21 September. Instructor Dr. Paul McKenzie.

September  
BOD decided that as of December 2001 MONPS would create and maintain a policy manual where any decisions and policies implemented by the BOD would be kept.

December 1  
BOD voted to offer outside speakers at the Friday night gatherings of the quarterly board meetings an honorarium of $75.00.

December  
BOD agreed that board decisions might be processed via electronic mail balloting in those situations where calendar time restrictions precluded delaying until the next regularly scheduled meeting. Ballot would present the options of yea, nay, abstain, and inappropriate to MONPS to consider.

2002  
March  
H. Stanton Hudson, a Missouri native, naturalist, and long-time member of MONPS died at the age of 82. His wish was to establish a scholarship fund, through MONPS, to benefit students working on projects involving Missouri flora.

April  
BOD agreed, in principle, that MONPS would consider adopting a policy to manage a long-term memorial account. An exploratory committee was appointed to advise the board on available options and make recommendations.

June  
*Carex Workshop 2002*, University of Missouri–Columbia. ID of Missouri Sedges was conducted to a full enrollment 3–4 June. Instructors; Dr. Paul M. McKenzie, Michael Currier, Paul Nelson, Brad Jacobs. Organized by Dan Drees.

June  
MONPS donated several items for a silent auction at the North American Prairie Conference. Proceeds went to the Missouri Prairie Foundation.

December  
BOD agreed to draft operating guide for the Hudson Fund, as proposed by the Hudson Fund Ad Hoc Committee.
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>BOD agreed to join 25 other native plant conservation organizations and become an affiliate member of the Native Plant Conservation Coalition.</td>
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<td><strong>2003</strong></td>
<td><strong>March</strong> Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Parks Division, requested assistance from MONPS members in identifying the extent and distribution of exotic plants in Missouri’s state parks.</td>
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<td><strong>June</strong> The Second Annual Missouri Carex Workshop was conducted to a full enrollment at Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO 4–5 June 2003. Instructors: Dr. Paul McKenzie, Dr. George Yatskievych, Paul Nelson, Michael Currier, Brad Jacobs. Organized by Dan Drees.</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>BOD voted to offer a complementary life membership in MONPS to everyone who had served, or would serve, as President of MONPS in appreciation of those persons’ time, talents, and often money in service to the Society.</td>
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<td><strong>2004</strong></td>
<td><strong>April</strong> BOD decided to have a link on MONPS Web page to the Center for Plant Conservation’s Web site for that organization’s <em>Plant Conservation for Gardeners</em> tip sheet.</td>
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<td><strong>April</strong> BOD voted to disband Environment and Education Committee and to handle issues on a case-by-case basis.</td>
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| **2005**   | **January** First announcement soliciting applications for Hudson Fund grant money sent out.  
**May** Second joint meeting of MONPS and Illinois Native Plant Society at Pere Marquette State Park, Illinois, with activities on both sides of the Mississippi River.  
**July** MONPS announced that Ms Alexandra Harmon-Threatt and Ms Tara Herring were awarded the first Hudson Fund grants of $500 each. |
| **2006**   | **April** Revised MONPS Fact Sheets renumbered (#1–4) and loaded on MONPS Web page.  
**June** BOD voted to donate $400 to Ozarks Underground Laboratory to aid in purchase of native seed for conversion of old pasture to native prairie vegetation.  
**July** MONPS Publicity Chairman Kevin Bley, on behalf of MONPS, honored Alberici Construction Company with a *Certificate of Recognition* he created, the Blazing Star Award, for recognizing and publicizing specific actions of individuals or groups which benefited native plants. Alberici used native plants on the grounds of the company’s headquarters. |
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approached MONPS about a partnership to create plant lists for national wildlife refugees located in Missouri. Squaw Creek NWR expressed a special interest in such a project.</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>MONPS pledged $500 to the Dan Tenaglia Foundation for the Preservation of Natural Areas. Dan was an avid nature photographer who was killed in February 2007 when hit by an automobile while he was riding his bicycle. MONPS had awarded Dan the Erna R. Eisendrath Memorial Education Award in 2004 in recognition of his achievements in establishing a Web site showcasing Missouri native plants.</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>Nomination form and award certificate for Blazing Star Certificate of Recognition completed and placed on MONPS Web site. This award was intended as a loose award that local chapters could use as they saw fit. They did not need the state organization’s approval to grant the award, but did need to notify the state BOD when a certificate was presented.</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>MONPS Fact Sheet #5 on invasive plants completed and placed on Web site.</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>BOD decided not to offer a MONPS ball cap as a money making project but to make it available for members who wanted one.</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>BOD directed MONPS President Rex Hill to send letter to AmerenUE endorsing least intrusive option for new power lines through the LaBarque Creek watershed.</td>
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<td>December</td>
<td>BOD recognized new local MONPS chapter, Perennis from the Bootheel region.</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Joint meeting with the Arkansas Native Plant Society in Harrison, Arkansas.</td>
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<td>July</td>
<td>Redesigned MONPS Web site introduced, with David Winn of the Kansas City local chapter assuming the role of Webmaster. He expanded the scope of the site to allow much more interaction from the membership.</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>Plant list for Squaw Creek NWR completed and sent to the Refuge. Mingo NWR list in process. Big Muddy NWR requested help in preparing a similar list.</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Joint meeting with the Arkansas Native Plant Society in Springfield, Missouri. This meeting reciprocated the joint meeting held in Arkansas in 2008. Focus was on prairies in general and Mead’s milkweed in particular.</td>
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<td>September</td>
<td>MONPS celebrated its 30th anniversary in Fulton. In addition to a field trip to nearby Prairie Garden Trust, there were talks about changes in Missouri flora over the past thirty years and presentations on the future of MONPS and the roles it could perform. Seven former presidents attended the Saturday evening banquet.</td>
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June 2009: Steve Buback presents the MONPS Plant Stewardship Award to Greg Galbraith, of the Ozark Regional Land Trust.

Seven former MONPS presidents at the 30th Anniversary banquet. Left to right: Doug Ladd, Paul Redfearn, Bill Summers, Karen Haller, Jack Harris, Larry Morrison, Rex Hill.