native plant society of oregon

OBJECTIVE.

Jo increase the knowledge of members and public in identification and conservation of the native plants of the Pacific Northwest.

Vol. XIII No. 4

April 1980

NPSO ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKER SELECTED

Wilber Bluhm, longtime NPSO member and OSU Extension Service employee, will be the featured speaker at the NPSO Annual Meeting. His topic will be the Flora of Silver Creek Falls State Park. The perfect subject for the time and place of the annual meeting.

ABSOLUTELY THE LAST CHANCE TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE BULLETIN IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES.

For those of you who have forgotten to renew your membership in the Society, the Editors have decided to give you one more chance to continue to receive the Bulletin. No more Bulletins without renewals after this month. Renew and help achieve the goals of the Society. Our native plants need advocates:

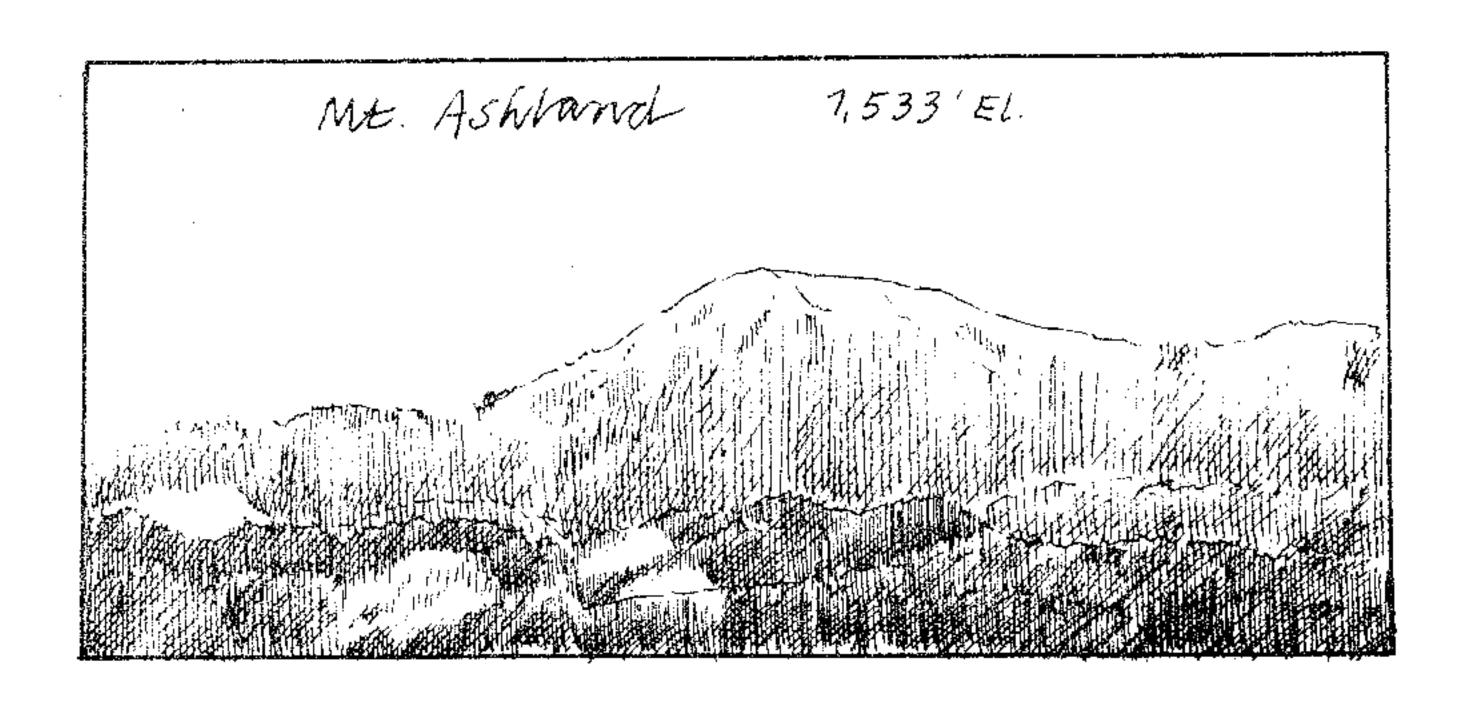
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

There will be a 7:30 breakfast meeting of NPSO Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting at Silver Creek Falls State Park, May 18, 1980. New members will be sent a notice and an agenda as soon as the results of the election is known. If the membership has items they would like considered by the Board, please send them to me for inclusion on the Agenda.

Frank Lang, President

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED PLANT SYMPOSIUM

Keep July 25, 26 and 27th, 1980 clear on your calendars, the dates of the West Coast's first T/E Plant Symposium. The three day event, Threatened and Endangered Plants: A West Coast Perspective, will feature talks, invited speakers (including G. Ledyard Stebbins and Art Kruckeberg) and a high Siskiyou field trip from Mt. Ashland to Dutchman's Peak. The event is sponsored by NPSO, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Southern Oregon State College. More information will be available in the next Bulletin. (Better pay your dues if you want to learn more about this event.)



ANNUAL MEETING FORMS DUE APRIL 30

The annual meeting of the Native Plant Society of Oregon will be held May 17, 1980 at Silver Falls State Park at the Conference Center. Accomodations are reserved for an overnight stay for those who wish. The Park is located approximately 45 minutes from Salem and 75 minutes from Portland. Maps showing the location have been sent to each Chapter President. A field trip is planned on Saturday afternoon to begin at 2:00 p.m., planning to return to the Conference grounds about 5:00 p.m. Another trip is planned for Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, with lunch to follow at 1:00 p.m.

Cost:

Rooms at Lodges - \$28 per person
Each room has two single beds. If those attending alone wish to share a room with someone they know this should be indicated on the reservation form by listing both names (with corresponding addresses). If not so listed, rooms will be assigned to share as registrations are received. The lodges are fully winterized and heated and the price includes linen, housekeeping services and three meals.

Spaces are equipped with water, electricity and bathhouse. There are 60 spaces available on a first-come basis. Meals can be available at cost indicated on the reservation form. Reservations must be made for meals by April 30, 1980. No reservations will be accepted for camp-sites. The overnight camping area is approximately 1½ miles from the Conference Center.

Dinner Only - \$7 per person Reservations must be made using the form enclosed, by April 30, 1980.

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY APRIL 30, 1980. No refunds will be made after that date. Checks made payable to the Native Plant Society must accompany reservations. Reservations will be confirmed.

There is room for 56 campers in the lodges. As a result, all reservations will be accepted on a date-received basis. Early reservations will afford you a better chance of a room.

Send reservation requests to:

Mary Falconer, Coordinator 1920 Engel Ave., NW Salem, OR 97304

Her phone is: (503) 585-9419

WESTERN NATIVE PLANT SOCIETIES MET IN RENO

Representatives of nine western native plant societies met on Saturday, February 23, to exchange information about their organizations and to discuss the proposal to form an alliance of native plant societies. Held in Reno, Nevada, and hosted by the Northern Nevada Native Plant Society, the meeting drew representatives from Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, plus several other observers. The meeting has been called by Mitchel Beauchamp, public information chairman of the California Native Plant Society. The Native Plant Society of Oregon was represented by Bulletin Editor, Vern Crawford, who substituted for flu-stricken President, Frank Lang.

Topics discussed included funding, membership, publications, legal organization, rare plant surveys, and legislative action, if any. Copies of publications, by-laws, public information brochures, and other materials were exchanged.

The need for, and possible organization of, an alliance of native plant societies was discussed, leading to plans for another meeting, also to be held this spring. Suggested purposes for associating more formally included:

- 1. Gathering and sharing field data for better understanding of plant ranges and habitat requirements.
- 2. Perpetuation of native plant species and their habitats.
- 3. Promotion of the public's knowledge and awareness of native plants.
- 4. Encouragement of cultivation of native plants for the preservation of gene pools, reduction in water demands, and reduction in maintenance costs.

A formal alliance of native plant societies could speak with a unified voice on political and legislative issues and could perhaps also aid member societies with economies of purchases. Your editor's opinion of the meeting was very positive, and we sensed that a general feeling of willingness to work toward common goals permeated the meeting.

BULLETIN SEARCHES FOR A NAME

Several names have been suggested by our members for the NPSO Bulletin, but the field is still wide open, and no decision will be made until the Annual Meeting, May 17. So keep those suggestions coming in to President Frank Lang, addressed to him, Native Plant Society of Oregon, Biology Department, Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, Oregon 97520.

Suggested already are: Mahonia, Howellia, The Pollenizer, Chatter Box, Woodland Star, Bulletin NPSO, Newsletter NPSO. It has been pointed out that "Mahonia"-type names are usually given to journal-style publications -- which our Bulletin has not yet become -- whereas "Newsletter" as a name is not quite accurate either. Your editor thinks we may want to do both, with the thought that someday NPSO may indeed publish a true journal. For example, we could have "Mahonia, Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon," which could serve us both now and in the future as our statewide publication matures. Think about what you would like to see atop your Bulletin and let us know.

NEW SISKIYOU CHAPTER OFFICERS

At the March election of officer, outgoing Chapter President, Gordon Larum, expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to all officers and committee members who served this past year. He was pleased to have had their help and support. New officers, to take office April 1, include:

Joan Seevers, President Andy Kier, First Vice President Wayne Rolle, Second Vice President Lisa Hirsch, Secretary-Treasurer

"Thanks for a job well done!" -- Gordon Larum

NEWS FROM THE MID-COLUMBIA CHAPTER

Newly elected officers are: Keith Chamberlain, President; Sue Kofahl, Vice-President; Mickey Puddy, Secretary; Doris Reeves, Treasurer.

Recent activities: 1) a field trip within our own area the 9th (March); 2) planning for our Spring Wildflower Show to be held at Mosier School the 12th and 13th of April. Also that weekend, or rather Sunday, is the Community Blossom Day Tour and Smorgasbord.

We're rather proud of our area's wildflowers and look forward to sharing them with the Salem and Portland Chapter the 29th of this month. We're also enjoying receiving and reading the monthly Bulletin. Appreciate, too, the extra copies for distribution. Have started a collection in our local city library.

OTHER EVENTS

** Clackamas Community College will sponsor the following talk, Monday, April 14: Endangered Plants, Janet Hohn of the Endangered Plant Program, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, speaker. The program will be held at 7 p.m., Clackamas Community College, 19600 S. Molalla Ave., Oregon City, OR 97045, in the Community Center Building, Room CC-117.

** With interest growing in protection of the Columbia River Gorge, a timely short course, May 10-11: The Columbia Gorge, 1980 Short Course on The Columbia, sponsored by Washington State University, Columbia River Gorge Commissioners of Oregon and Washington, and others. Meeting in Washougal, WA and The Dalles, OR, and travelling by boat and bus. Cost is \$122.00 for single space, less for multiple. For information and registration, contact Linda Logan, Secretary, Mid-Columbia Visitors Council, P.O. Box 1376, White Salmon, WA 98672.



NPSO GUIDELINES AND ETHICAL CODE (adopted, 1978)

General Guideline:

Think twice. Use discretion. A plant in place is worth two in the hand. Love thy flora.

I. Chapter Guidelines

- Know your rare, threatened, and endangered species. Know your fragile environments and unique biotic communities.
- 2. Be alert to threats to native plants and their habitats. Appoint watch-dog committees to keep aware of these threats and inform the chapter.
- 3. Take action to protect native plants. Work with all groups and the general public to protect native plants and their habitats. Be prepared to salvage plants where they are threatened by outright destruction. Help eradicate particularly aggressive and successful exotic plants that threaten native plants. Take responsible outings.
- 4. Educate your members and the public about native plants, and encourage them to use good judgement in the study, enjoyment and use of native plants.
- 5. Encourage your members to grow native plants only from seeds or cuttings.

II. Out There Among the Plants

- 1. Outings for whatever purpose must never endanger a plant population. Encourage non-destructive modes of learning and enjoyment: photography, artwork, scientific description, esthetic prose and poetry, and so on.
- 2. On group outings (field trips, conservation activities, class field studies), group leaders must take responsibility for protecting native plants from the activities of the group. All participants should understand the goal of plant protection, the purpose of the outing, and the means by which they can make the least impact on plants and natural habitat.
- Know where endangered species are growing and plan outings with this knowledge in mind.
- 4. Respect private and public property. Do not trespass. Know the regulations for use of the land and natural resources public or private your group is entering.
- 5. Respect the habitat as a whole. Avoid disturbing wildlife, such as nesting birds and nesting hornets.
- 6. Be sensitive to the human foot as a threat to plants. Visits to fragile environments

- should be carefully planned. Students should be given adequate direction by the instructor, and excessive collecting should be discouraged. Better one person enter a fragile area to identify a plant than the whole group.
- 7. Collecting should be considered only when identification cannot be made in the field or when it will contribute significantly to educational or scientific objectives. Collecting for whatever purpose should be done as inconspicuously as possible. Casual observers may not understand the reasons for collecting and may feel license to do likewise.
- 8. Collecting must never endanger a plant population. Collect seeds or cuttings in preference to whole plants. Do not collect underground plant parts except for identification purposes. Avoid excessive collecting: this calls for exercise of good judgement by the collector. Consider the use of rules of thumb for judging whether to pick or not to pick. Encourage group study of one specimen. Consider using weeds, garden species, or lab-grown specimens for educational purposes.

III. Using Native Plants

- 1. Use of native plants in wildflower shows, plant sales, and horticulture must never threaten their populations.
- 2. Native plant species for sale should be obtained by salvage, seeds, or cuttings in that order of priority and whole plants should never be dug up, except for salvage. Seeds should not be sold directly, but should be cultured and the plants then sold. Growers must exercise discretion in collecting seeds and cuttings to avoid endangering plant populations.
- 3. Native plants for sale should state on the label how obtained or grown. Chapters should consider certifying commercial growers who follow good, ethical practice, and should urge the public not to buy unless plants were obtained or grown according to these quidelines.
- 4. The sale and use of particularly aggressive and successful exotic plant species, such as gorse, broom and pampas grass, should be discouraged.
- 5. Salvage of native plants should be encouraged when their destruction is certain: at quarries, mines, dams, building construction sites, road construction sites. Salvage is not necessarily called for, however, on logging sites, some recreational areas, and rangeland. Salvaged plants should be kept potted long enough before sale to ensure that they will survive the shock of transplant.

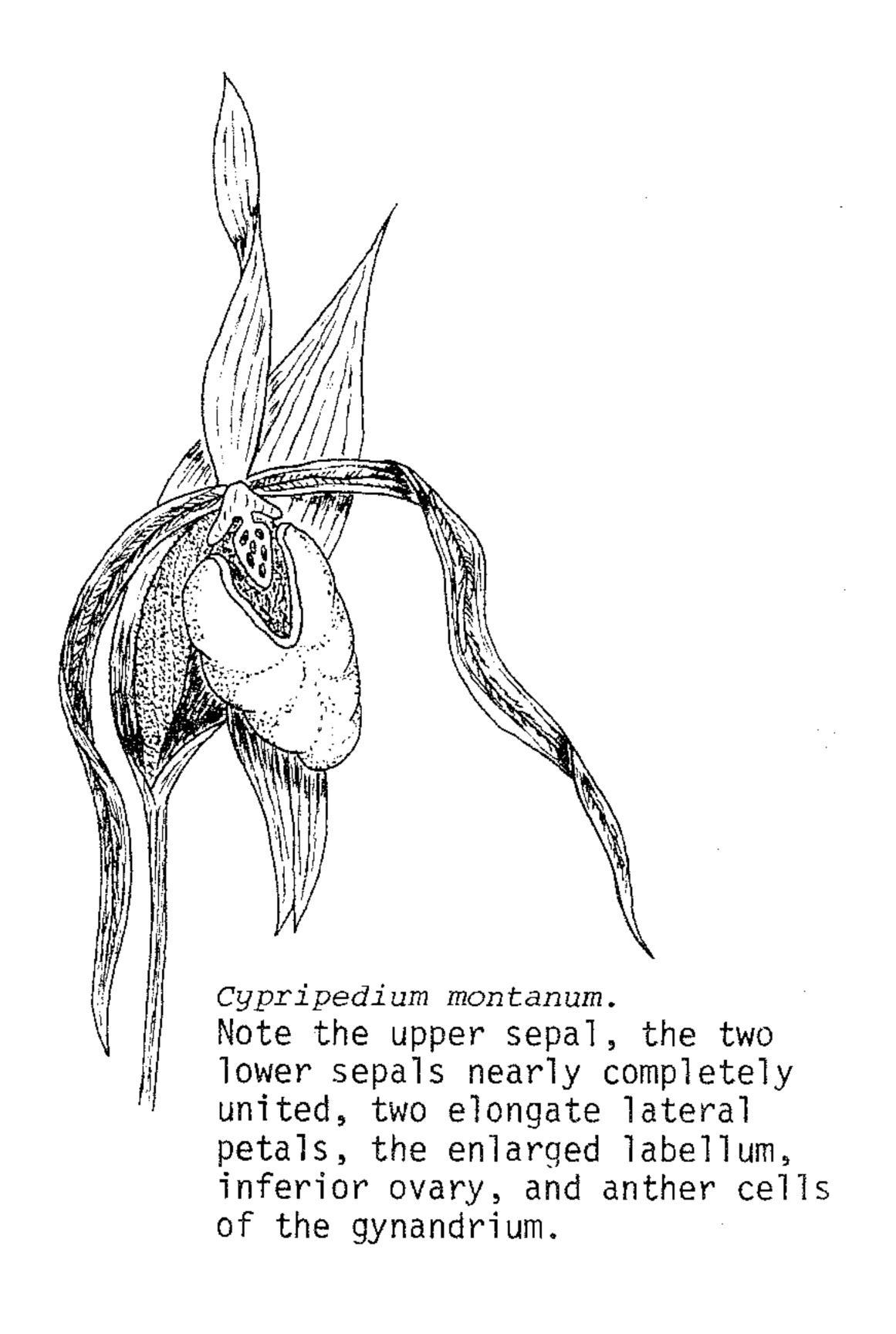
6. Wildflower shows should make maximum use of their educational potential. Inform the public of the goals of NPSO explain the guidelines your chapter follows in studying, enjoying, and using native plants - including guidelines followed in collecting for the show; consider using all other educational options (slides, artwork, publications, herbarium collections, news media, etc.) and continue the educational "life" of display material after the show by donating them to schools, libraries or other constructive uses.

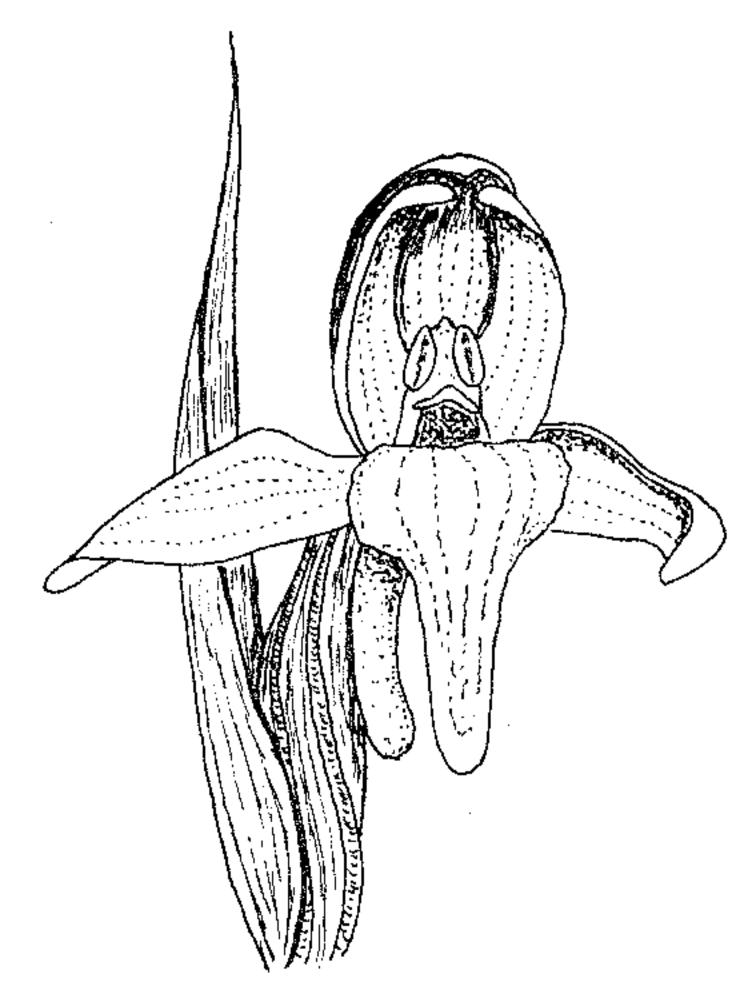
PLANT FAMILY PROFILES By Herm Fitz

The Orchidaceae - ORCHID FAMILY
The Orchid Family is actually rather large and of wide ecological range, having representatives in most areas on earth except marine, extremely dry desert, and alpine ecosystems. Many of these perennial herbs are epiphytes in tropical regions, but most temperate species are terrestrial. Actual numerical estimates vary: Hitchcock, et. al. (1969) state "about 450 genera and nearly 8000 species" and Lawrence (1951), with the same number of genera, claims 10,000 to 15,000 species. More recently, Hunt (1978) describes the classification of orchids with 750 genera and 18,000 species.

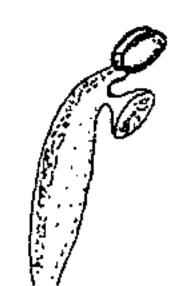
Fortunately the problem is simplified in Oregon. We have only nine native genera, several of which are monotypic, giving a total of (probably) 24 species. Fairy Slipper (Calypso bulbosa), with its solitary flower and single leaf, is familiar in the rich humic soils in the deep shade of old forests. The Coral Roots (corallorhiza), with no green leaves, emerge from decaying litter in various forests, deciduous to coniferous, moist to dry. Ladies Slipper (*Cypripedium*), with showy flowers, formerly occurred in bogs, damp mossy woods, or dry woods, depending on the species; now all four species native to Oregon are known from few sites (if any) and are considered rare, threatened and endangered. One may still encounter the ghost-white Phantom Orchid (Eburophyton austineae) in moist, sparselyvegetated decaying litter again in dense shade under conifers. The leafy Giant Helleborine (Epipactis gigantea) of streambanks, lake margins and springs may shoot its bracteate raceme a meter or more high. And in the understory of the forest floor, usually in a mossy situation, we may find Rattlesnake Plantain (Goodyera oblongifolia) with its distinctive whitish-mottled basal leaves. The Rein and Bog Orchids (Habenaria) include 8 species found in moist mossy forest, dry open woods, wet and boggy ground, or even coastal cliffs and hills. Twayblade (*Listera*), with opposite leaves in a single pair, occurs in woods, in forests, and along mossy stream banks. Finally, in swampy sites and sphagnum bogs, appear the Ladies Tresses (Spiranthes romanzoffiana).

All orchids live in mutualistic association with various fungi that assist in seed germination and root function (including food-getting in saprophytic forms) - without which they would die. This delicate relationship makes it virtually impossible to transplant native orchids and maintain them in cultivation; one should leave them in their wild haunts. The orchids in Oregon are all terrestrial, and are sometimes saprophytic, without green leaves (Eburo-





Single flower with bract from raceme in the Boreal Bog Orchid (Habenaria dilitata). Note the spurred labellum, the rostellum beneath the two separated pollen sacs, and the ½ twist in the ovary.



Gynandrium or column of Eburophyton austineae. Note the concave stigmatic surface just beneath the single terminal anther.



Cross-section of a typical orchid ovary. Note the single locule and numerous ovules attached by three parietal placentae.

phyton, corallorhiza). Most, however, have one to several linear to orbicular leaves that may sheath the stem. Plants may frequently have rhizomatous or fleshy enlarged clusters of roots. In fact, it is the testiculate appearance of paired tubers in certain genera that gives rise to the family name: Orchis, the Greek word for testicle.

Flowers are most often in bracteate racemes, although they may be solitary (Calypso, some species of Cypripedium) or in a twisted spike (Spiranthes). Orchid flowers have several unique features that make the family quite easy to recognize. Although there are 3 sepals and 3 petals, their arrangement is distinctive. The three sepals are essentially similar, and may or may not be petal-like in appearance. Occasionally the two lower are joined. Alternating with the sepals are 3 petals, the upper two being alike and small (often matching the sepals), but the third and lowermost (originally uppermost, but becoming lower due to a peculiar ½ twist of the ovary during development), called the lip or labellum, being variously modified, enlarged, divided, brightly colored, saccate, spurred, or otherwise different. It is sometimes involved as an intricately designed mechanism helping to ensure pollination. The sexual parts, too, are unique, for the stamens have united with the style and stigma to form a single structure, the gynandrium or column. The position of the stigmatic surface is variable, from high to low on the column, but the anther (2 in Cypripedium) is attached to the back or dorsal side of the column. One of the three stigma lobes may become a sterile flap of tissue separating the anthers from the other 2 stigma lobes; it is called the rostellum (not always present). Pollen is dispersed in clusters known as pollinia. The style leads to an inferior tricarpellate ovary, most often unilocular (a single chamber) with parietal placentae, which develops into a many-seeded dry capsule that ultimately splits longitudinally. Seeds are extremely tiny, having embryos of only a few cells.

The floral formula may be expressed:

3 3 1(2) 3 Ca Coz S P

Whenever you come across a leafless or leafy single raceme of three-parted, but highly modified, flowers that follow the floral plan above, having the distinctive labellum and unique gynandrium, it is certain that you have found a member of the Orchidaceae - the Orchid Family.

Literature Cited:

Hitchcock, C.L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1969. Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest. Part I. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 914 pp.

Hunt, P.F. 1978. The Orchidaceae: The Orchid Family. In: Heywood, V.H. (Ed.). Flowering

Plants of the World. Mayflower Books, N.Y. 335 pp.

Lawrence, G.M. 1951. Taxonomy of Vascular Plants. Macmillan Co., N.Y. 823 pp.



FRANK'S FABULOUS FACTS

The orchid family is fabulous for lots of reasons. It is the original (and best) source of vanilla. The climbing orchid (Vanilla planifolia), native to Central America, is grown in a number of different countries for its seed pods or "beans" (fruits) which contain the flavoring component vanillin. After a long curing process the pods are sent to market. When properly cured the long slender pods should be black and show visible crystals of vanillin on their surface.

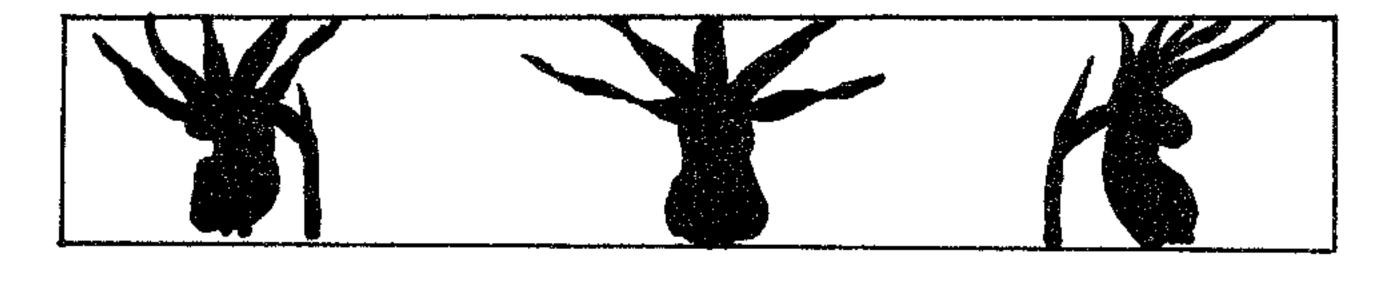
Although vanillin is manufactured synthetically, there is still a demand for natural vanilla. The pods also contain other aromatic substances that enhance the flavor of confections made with the real thing.

The relationship between orchid plants and pollen vectors (the way pollen gets from anther to stigma) is often nothing short of amazing. Take the orchid genus Ophyrs for instance. The flowers of many Ophyrs species resemble female bees and wasps closely enough in color, structure and odor, that the male bees try to copulate with the flowers and in the process of this "pseudocopulation" carry the pollinia from one flower to another. Since there seem to be an adequate supply of male insects around, they must occasionally encounter a real female.

Van Der Pijl and Dodson's book, Orchid Flowers, Their Pollination and Evolution has many interesting accounts of other equally interesting happenings in the orchids. Donovan Correll's book, Native Orchids of North America, Chronica Botanica 1950, is an old, but beautifully illustrated book. It contains much interesting and useful information and superb pen and ink illustrations by Blanche Ames and Gordon W. Dillon.

Finally, the orchids are fabulous for the beauty of their flowers.

Frank Lang



CHAPTER CALENDARS

BLUE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

Plan now to attend the Blue Mountain Wildflower Show. This spectacular event will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 3-4, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Hawthorne School Multipurpose Room, 1308 SW Emigrant Avenue, in Pendleton. Pendleton is served by Amtrak, United Airlines, and Air Oregon. BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SISKIYOU CHAPTER

Meetings -- Thursday, April 3, Room 275, Science, SOSC, Ashland, 7:30 p.m. Fossil Plants of the Cascade Range, Gary Gray speaker. A comparison of Oligocene fossils from locations in the Cascades, followed by a field trip (see below). Come see what our flora used to be!

Field Trip -- Saturday, April 12, K-Mart, Medford, 8:00 a.m.; Bi-Mart, Ashland, 8:30. Fossil Plants Near Pilot Rock, Gary Gray, leader. This is not a fossil collecting trip, but a chance to see fossils in the ground next to our present flora. Bring lunch and water. Some walking.

-- Sat-Sun, April 19-20. Bi-Mart, Medford, 7:00 a.m. <u>Indian Flat</u>, Wayne Rolle, leader. Join this overnight backpack to exciting country near the Illinois River near Agness. Hike is 5 miles one-way, of moderate difficulty. See <u>Iris</u>, <u>Erythronium</u>, <u>Arabis</u> in areas of peridotite, lush woodland, meadows. Note early depature times above.

--Saturday, April 26, Science Building, Southern Oregon State College, 9:00 a.m. The rescheduled Natural History Photography Field Trip conducted by Vern Crawford and Frank Lang. Bring cameras, film, and lunch.

PORTLAND CHAPTER

Meeting -- Monday, April 14. Romanzoffia, an Odyssey of Discovery, Vern Mertalla, speaker. For a number of years, Mr. Mertalla has searched out and photographed this delightful little plant of the moist cliffs. This will be an outstanding program and an opportunity to question an expert on Romanzoffias. Members and friends are cordially invited to attend.

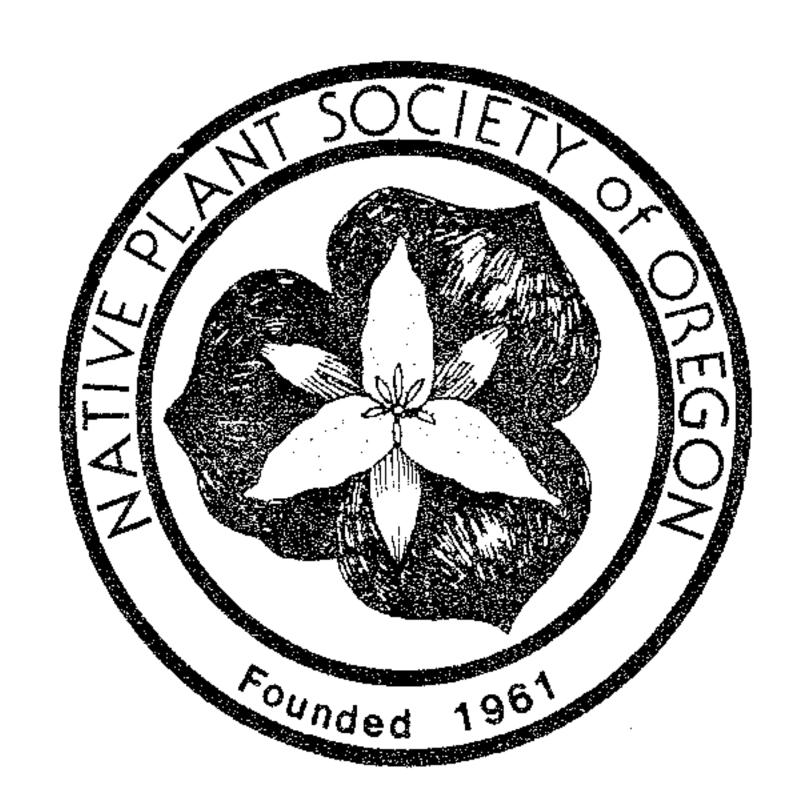
Field Trips -- Saturday, April 5, <u>Cape Falcon</u>.

Ingeborg Day, leader. Meet in the parking lot Oswald West State Park 14 miles south of Cannon Beach at 10:00 a.m. Distance from Portland 98 miles. Carpool in the OMSI parking lot 8:00 a.m.

Glenn Walthall, leader. Meet 9:30 a.m. in the upper parking lot. Take Rt. 224 to Carver, cross the bridge, turn left on Springwater Road and continue about 9 miles to the park. Carpool at Tri-Met's Handyman park and ride lot 15550 S.E. McLoughlin Blvd and Risley Ave in Oak Grove at 8:30 a.m. Glenn requests no dogs on his trips in deference to the pileated woodpeckers and other denizens.

-- Saturday, April 19, Willowdale - Shaniko. Keith Chamberlain, leader. Meet three miles west of Maupin at the intersection of Rts. 216 and 197 at 9:00 a.m. Carpool at the State Motor Vehicles Department parking lot, N.E. 60th and Glisan, at 7:00 a.m. Maupin is 95 miles from Portland. Anticipate short walks among Pediocactus simpsonii on a 90 mile loop after rendevous.

-- Saturday, April 26, Molalla River Cliffs. Dr. John Hammond, leader. Meet 9:30 a.m. at the Junior High School in Molalla south of the 4-way stoplight. Carpool 8:40 a.m. at the Handyman park and ride lot in Oak Grove (see above).



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

At Large:

Larry H. and Shana Greene, Brookings

Mid-Columbia Chapter:

John and Nancy Krzeszak, The Dalles

Blue Mountain Chapter:

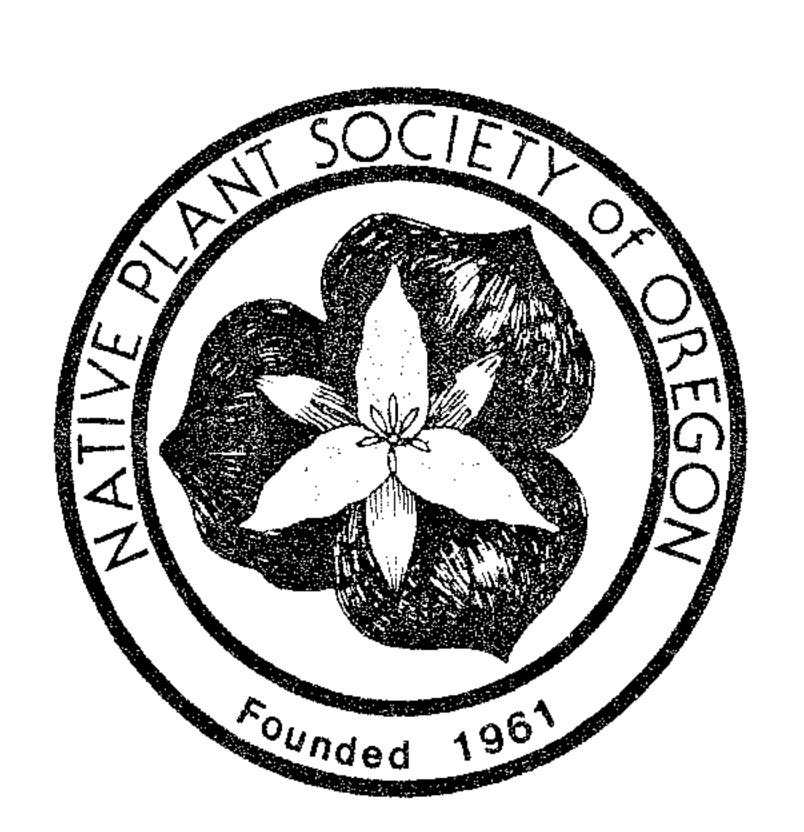
Lynn and Vi Ranney, Pendleton

Portland Chapter:

Al and Ruth Keen, Portland John A. Kennison, Portland Barbara A. Winters, Tigard Marion H. Otto, Portland Russel L. and Elizabeth Baker, Portland CH2M Hill, Inc., Portland

Siskiyou Chapter:

Naoma Neyerlin, Winston Jennifer Stone, Ashland



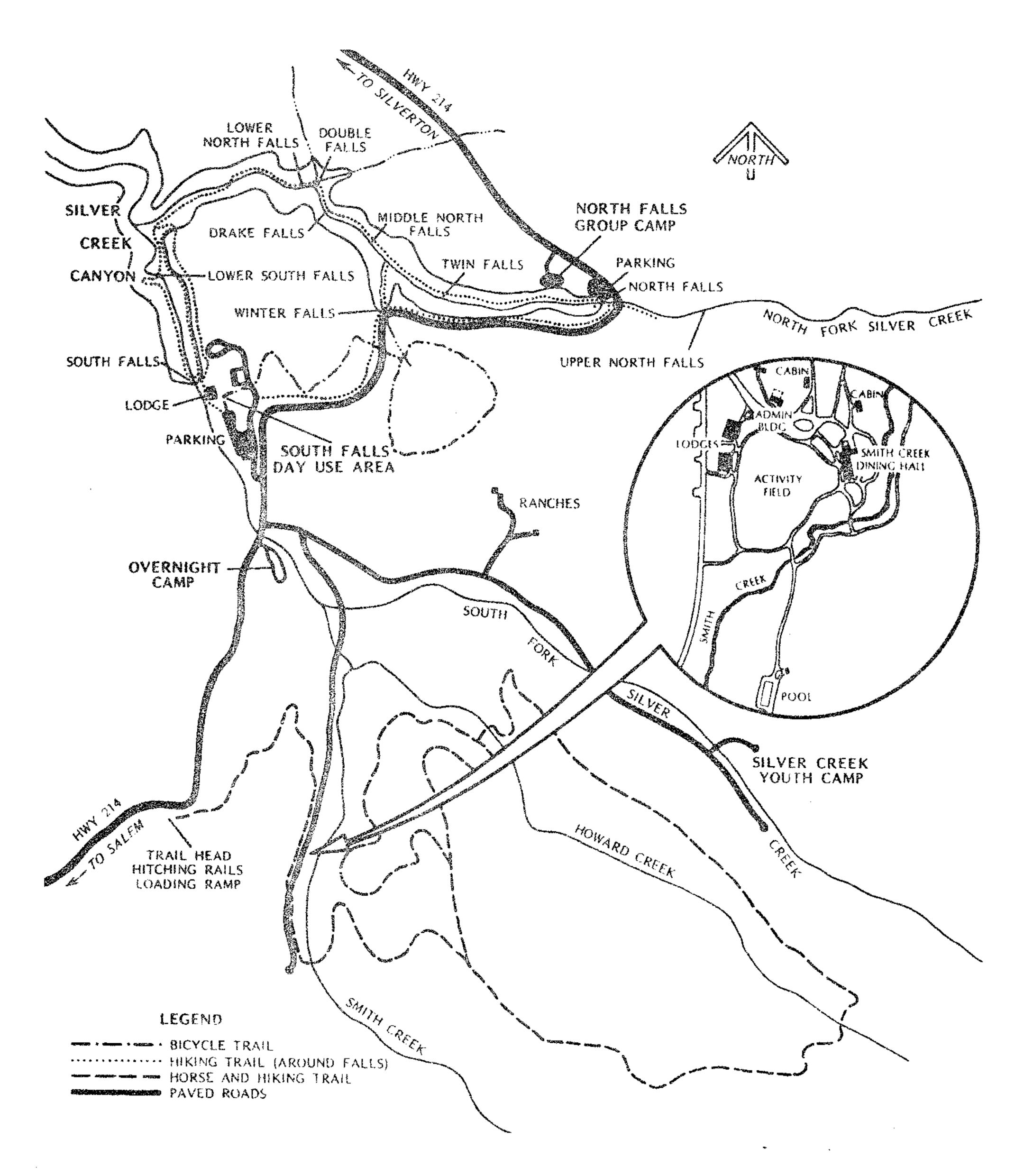
DIRECTIONS TO

SILVER FALLS CONFERENCE CENTER

AT SILVER FALLS STATE PARK . . .

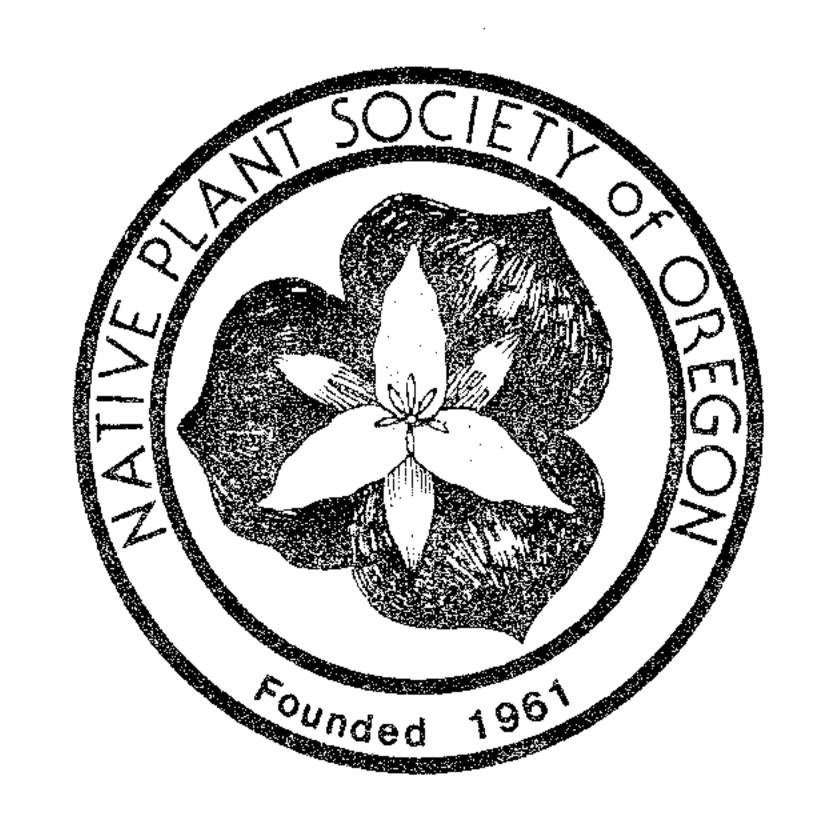
- Exit Highway 214 at sign marked "Youth Camps Park Headquarters"
- Proceed to "Y" in road and take the right fork, which is signed "Smith Creek Youth Camp"
- Go through the youth camp gate, then make immediate right and proceed through gate on Smith Creek Road.
- The Conference Center is approximately 1½ miles from the "Smith Creek Youth Camp" sign

IF YOU MAKE THE TRIP BEFORE DARK, YOU'LL ENJOY BEAUTIFUL VIEWS IN THE SILVERTON HILLS



SILVER FALLS CONFERENCE CENTER

SILVER FALLS STATE PARK 20024 SILVER FALLS HIGHWAY SE SUBLIMITY, OR 97385 TELEPHONE: (503) 873-4913



The Editors Native Plant Society of Oregon Department of Biology Southern Oregon State College Ashland, Oregon 97520

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NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

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Board of Directors: NPSO Bulletin Editors: Vern Crawford and Dr. Frank Lang

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For change of address or information on membership, contact your nearest chapter or Mary Falconer, 1920 Engel Ave., NW, Salem 97304. Contributions to the NPSO Bulletin or non-delivery notice should be sent to: The Editors, Native Plant Society of Oregon, Department of Biology, Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, OR 97520.

The NPSO Bulletin is published monthly by the Native Plant Society of Oregon incorporated under the laws of the State of Oregon. You are invited to join. Membership includes Bulletin subscription.

Others are welcome to use material from the NPSO <u>Bulletin</u>. Courtesy pleads, however, that credit be given to the author and to the Bulletin.