

THE **BULLETIN** OF THE
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

• OBJECTIVE •

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

Vol. XIV No. 8

AUGUST 1981

FROM THE EDITORS

With our second Bulletin out, I sigh with relief and satisfaction at again jumbling news, notes and other native plant info onto six pages! The transition from Ashland to Eugene has been smooth; many thanks to Frank Lang and Vern Crawford, our previous editors. I encourage members to send native plant items and especially field trip reports. Copy due by the 15th of each month. Send to:

Linda Vorobik, NPSO Editor
Department of Biology, U of OR
Eugene OR 97403

CHAPTER NEWS

PORTLAND CHAPTER

Field Trips:

Sat., 8 Aug. Elk Cove. Leader undesignated. Carpool at Handyman/Tri-Met Park and Ride Lot in Oak Grove at 7:00 a.m., or at Cooper Spur Junction on Highway 35 at 8:30. This is an 8 mile round trip hike through magnificent alpine scenery on the north side of Mt. Hood.

Sat., 15 Aug. Tam McArthur Rim. Shep Wilson, leader. Met at 10 a.m. at Sisters Ranger Station. This is a 1200' climb in 2 miles to the north-east shoulder of Broken Top. Shep recommends Elizabeth Horn's Wildflowers I for a text. He claims you'll see them all. Consult either Shep or Joyce Beeman concerning arrangements.

Sat., 22 Aug. Bird Creek and Bird Creek Meadows (Mt. Adams). Ruth Hansen, leader. Carpool at State Motor Vehicles Division parking lot (NE 60th and Glisan) at 7:30 a.m. Drive to Bird Lake and hike along Bird Creek (trail no. 105) to an intersection with trail No. 3 which leads eastward to the Meadows. The round trip walking totals about 3 miles. Bird Creek Meadows is well known as one of the premier flower fields in the Pacific Northwest, but Ruth says it's anticlimactic after walking up along the Creek. Don't miss it! Bring along some insect repellent.

Sat., Aug. 29. Vista Ridge/Wy'East Basin. Louise Godfrey, leader. Carpool at State Motor Vehicles Division parking lot (address above) at 8:00 a.m. This hike is along a gradually climbing forest trail for 3 miles to Wy'East Basin, one of Mt. Hood's fine subalpine meadows. Those wishing to climb further may continue up Vista Ridge through alpine landscapes toward Barrett Spur (7800'), a former Mt. Hood.

Sat. 5 Sept. Labor Day Weekend. No trip scheduled.

Sat. 12 Sept. Breitenbush/Papoose Lakes Area. Wilbur Bluhm, leader. Carpool at Handyman/Tri-Met Park and Ride Lot (address above) in Oak Grove at 7:30 a.m. Take Highway 224 to Estacada, Ripplebrook (note: in the National Forest this route may be designated No. 46) and across 6-8 miles of rough road to a junction with S-42. Wilbur will meet us there at 9:30. This is an easy 4 mile round trip hike through at least three distinct habitats; wet mountain meadow, open subalpine forest and dry rock scree. Wilbur expects to see Gentiana calycosa, Microseris borealis, Gaultheria humifusa plus emerging fall color on the huckleberries and mountainash. This is not a trip to miss!

WILLAMETTE VALLEY CHAPTER

Meeting:

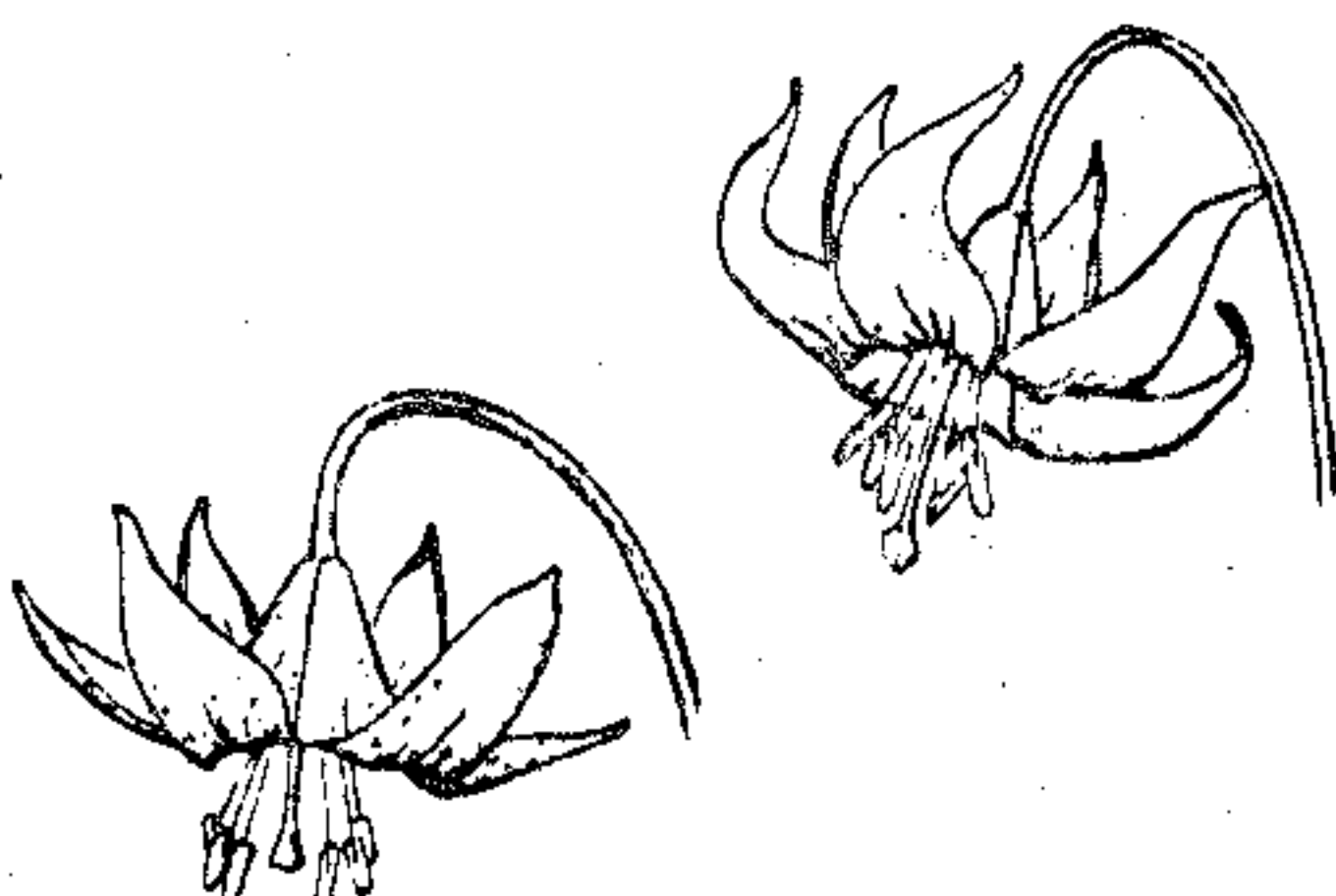
Monday, September 21, First Methodist Church, Salem, 7:30 p.m. For details see September issue of BULLETIN.

Field Trips:

Carpool at south Salem K-Mart, north side of parking lot, 8:00 a.m. Call leader for additional information, or trip coordinators Margo and Bob Wing (370-7350)

Sat., August 8. Three Creeks-Tam-McArthur Rim. Jack Bailey, leader. (394-2414)

Sat., August 15. Dwarf Mistletoe with Peter Paquet. Mariana Bornholdt, leader (505-2057)



EMERALD CHAPTER

Meetings:

Monday, August 3. Gaylee Goodrich, Master's Degree student at the University of Oregon, Dept. of Biology, will present a program on several species of rare delphiniums that grow in western Oregon and Washington. Slides and discussion of some rare habitats as well as some of the flora of the original Willamette Valley will also be included. Meet at 7:15 p.m., Eugene City Library.

Monday, September 14. Ken Hixson, Emerald Chapter member and long time plant lover, will present a demonstration and examples of the propagation of some of the native wild flowers. He will also share some book references and information about native plant nurseries. THIS IS THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH to avoid Labor Day. Meet at 7:15 p.m., Eugene City Library.

Field Trips:

Saturday, August 15. Rush Meadow and Marsh Communities of the Lane County Coast. Margaret Markley, Emerald Chapter member and Florence resident, will lead us to her favorite sites in search of late summer flowers of set places. Meet at the South Eugene High School parking lot, 8:00 a.m., or in Florence at the Junction of Highways 126 and 101 at 9:30 a.m. Call Charlene Simpson, 686-3221 (days) for additional details.

Lane County Fair:

August 18-23. Come see us at the Fair. The Emerald Chapter will have a display and membership promotional in the flower section. Call Charlene 686-3221 (days) or 686-1094 (eves) if you can help.

Field Trip Report, Emerald Chapter NPSO

Fairview Mountain, 11 July 1981

Eight native plant lovers turned out in sparkling weather on July 11, 1981, for an anniversary field-trip to Fairview Mountain. The anniversary was of William H. Baker's publication of his florula (little flora), "Plants of Fairview Mountain, Calapooya Range, Oregon," which appeared in The American Midland Naturalist in July, 1951 (Vol. 46, pp. 132-173). We hoped to relocate some of his discoveries and, perhaps, to find something not listed by him. We took the long way up, through Oakridge, which led us by Holland Meadows. The number of flowers seen through the car windows spoke to the promise of Holland Meadows being worthy of a special field-trip in the future. The roadsides were brightly decorated with Aquilegia, Dicentra, and Lupinus latifolius. Most striking were two pure white albinos standing out in huge masses of pink Phlox adsurgens. Along Bohemia Divide the Penstemon cardwellii was absolutely stunning.

Our first botanizing stop was brought on by a radiator which boiled over, fortuitously, on a flower-strewn south slope just below the summit of Fairview Mountain. We had identified 31 different plants in bloom before the radiator cooled. The most photographed flower at this site was Linanthastrum nuttallii, with Linum lewisii and Orthocarpus imbricatus close seconds. After a leisurely lunch at Fairview's summit, we spent most of the afternoon crawling around the rocky northeast slope just below. Here we identified 67 different flowering plants, almost all in bloom. (a few Lomatiums were identified in fruit). We spent many minutes wrestling with our Sedum keys before getting the three species present sorted out to everyone's satisfaction. An early prize was the rare Erigeron cascadenis, nestled in cracks of cliffs embroidered with Penstemon rupicola. Our first encounter with Polypodium hesperium and Heuchera micrantha was in the damp, dark recess of an old, abandoned mine shaft. Only eight feet deep, half a dozen of us crowded in to share the view out the mouth of the cave-like shaft framing Diamond Peak.

In the end, we found four species not reported from Fairview by Dr. Baker 30 years ago. Corylus cornuta and Rhamnus purshiana were found as scattered individuals, and in one spot the Sedum had Orobanche uniflora on it. The highlight of the day was the discovery of Frasera umpquaensis, making Fairview Mountain the second most northern site for this species. Several dozen plants were found, including many seedlings. The flowers on this had not quite yet begun to open at the time of our visit.



Frasera
umpquaensis

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One last stop near Musick Mine gave us an opportunity to study a number of bog-type plants near the stream. Here we were able to add a fern to Baker's list, Thelypteris nevadensis. A large clump was in the final stages of uncurling its delicate fronds. Also here were Trifolium and the dainty orchid, Listera caurina, described by Baker as rare in this area. With a final salute to the mountain above, we piled into the cars and headed home, ending a happy day for us all.



SISKIYOU CHAPTER

SISKIYOU WILDFLOWER SHOW A GREAT SUCCESS

Several thousand Independence Day visitors to Ashland's Lithia Park were treated to the fourth annual Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show. While temperatures soared into the 90's, Siskiyou Chapter members tended the exhibit of cut native blossoms, leaves, and cones beneath the cool shade of leafy sycamores. Chapter members had collected representative species from both the Cascades and the Siskiyous. Member Marcella Ring displayed five of her outstanding watercolor portraits of native plants, and member Dave Rogers prepared a display of native cones. Thanks are due to all who helped make this another successful show, especially Jennifer Riefler, organizer of this year's event.

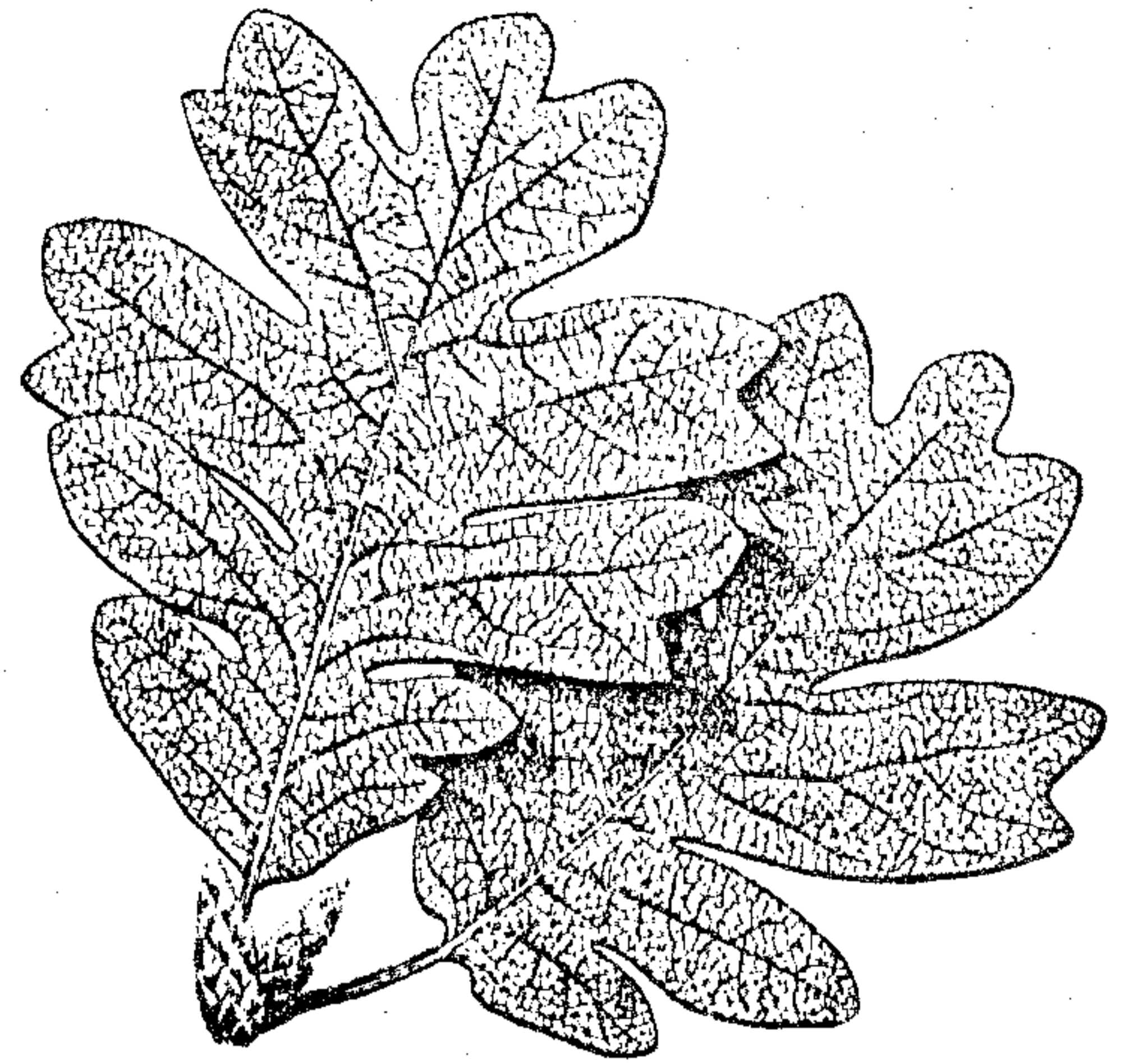
Vern Crawford

Field Trips:

Sat., Aug 8. Potluck at Joy's on Neil Creek. Bring a main dish and your own beverage and utensils (chilled foods should be kept in a cooler). Meet at Bi-Mart, Ashland, at 1:00 p.m. First we will botanize up the trail along beautiful Neil Creek; then we will return to the Joy's by 3:00 for the picnic. Bring friends and the whole family for this annual event. For information, call Jennifer Stone, 482-1400.

Sat., Aug. 29. Incised Mazama Pumice Canyons. Su Blumenthal, leader. This trip into the southern Oregon Cascades north of Prospect will provide us interesting geologic and floral discoveries. Bring lunch and water. Meet 8:00 Bi-Mart, Ashland, and 8:30 K-Mart, Medford.

Next Meeting: Thurs., Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m. in Rm. 171, Science Building, SOSC, Ashland. Program to be announced.

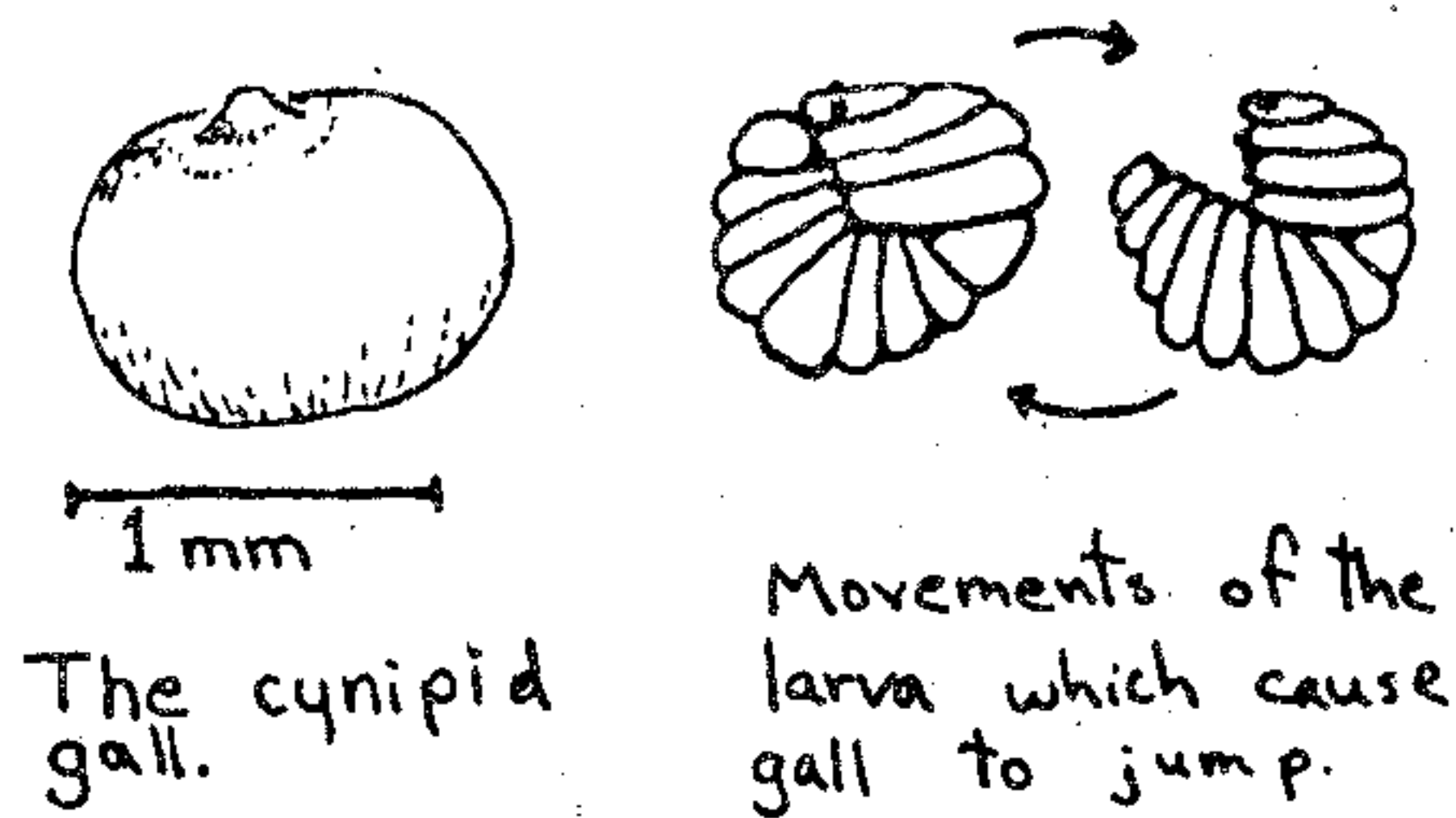


JUMPING GALLS ON OREGON WHITE OAK

Not too long ago a young man brought a most amazing item into the Herbarium for identification. He had a glass petri dish filled with what looked like mustard seeds, dancing and jumping about spontaneously with great vigor. I couldn't tell him what he had, but was immediately fascinated and determined to find out what was at hand. He said the little "seeds" fell out of oak or ash trees on a canvas tarp stretched out for shade. Guessing that the motivating agent was an insect, a telephone call to Dr. J. Lattin of the Oregon State University Entomology Department turned up some answers. Dr. Lattin informed us these were cynipid wasp galls, formed by much the same kind of wasp that forms the large, freckled galls on the underside of Quercus garryana leaves. Both kind of gall may be found on the same leaf.

Considering the good press the Mexican Jumping Bean has gotten, I was surprised that only one biologist of a dozen or more queried in Eugene had heard of the Oregon Jumping Gall. It's my hunch that this remarkable plant-insect interaction is worth describing for those NPSO members who might be unfamiliar with it. These galls are quite uniform in size, barely over a millimeter long, smooth, elliptical in shape, and having a protuberance on the side where once attached to the leaf. The gall itself is an abnormal outgrowth of the underside of the oak leaf induced by the larva of the wasp which resides within. The resemblance to a mustard seed, even as to color, is marked. Inside the thin, firm shell of the gall is a white, segmented larva, curled over with its head by its tail. At the slightest touch, the larva uncurls and curls again, as if by reflex. However, although quite quick, this movement clearly does not have enough snap to account for the ability of the galls to jump two or more centimeters (more than 20 times their diameter!) straight up. My hypothesis for the mechanism of jumping is that the uncurling of the larva causes a deformation (elongation and narrowing) of the rigid wall of the gall, and after the larva curls up again the wall snaps outward suddenly like a pinched ping-pong ball. If the gall is resting on a hard surface, this sudden return to roundness would cause the gall to spring into the air.

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Whatever the details of the mechanism, the Oregon Jumping Gall certainly jumps far better than the Mexican Jumping Bean if measured in diameters of lift-off. It may be late in the season to find many of these galls. Now, in late July, I find most have already dropped off the leaves. Their presence is indicated by small discolored spots on a leaf. Young galls are whitish while old, inactive ones are dark brown. The most active ones are pale yellow or very light tan. These should easily rub off into your hand, and may jump right out of your hand if not immediately dropped into a container! Despite the lateness of the season, a search is worthwhile; the reward is one of Oregon's true Wonders of Nature: the Oregon Jumping Gall.

David Wagner
Eugene

Are Cinnabar Moths a Threat to Native Senecios?

Cinnabar moths (*Tyria jacobaea*) were introduced in Linn and Coos Counties in the early 1960's in an attempt to control the poisonous weedy plant tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*). Both the ragwort and the moth are natives of northern Europe. There is some anecdotal evidence that the moths may be more abundant than usual--at least in the mid-Willamette Valley--this summer. A good many laypersons have noticed them and begun to ask what they are. The moths are brightly colored--red and black, fly in the daytime, and are sometimes misidentified as small red and black butterflies.

Tests made before the introduction of cinnabar moth indicated that the insect's sole food was *Senecio jacobaea*. However, both adult and larval *Tyria* have been seen on other species of *Senecio* in Oregon.

Hitchcock lists approximately 13 species of native *Senecio jacobaea* in Western Oregon. Two of these, *S. flettii* and *S. hesperius* are on the Oregon Rare & Endangered List.

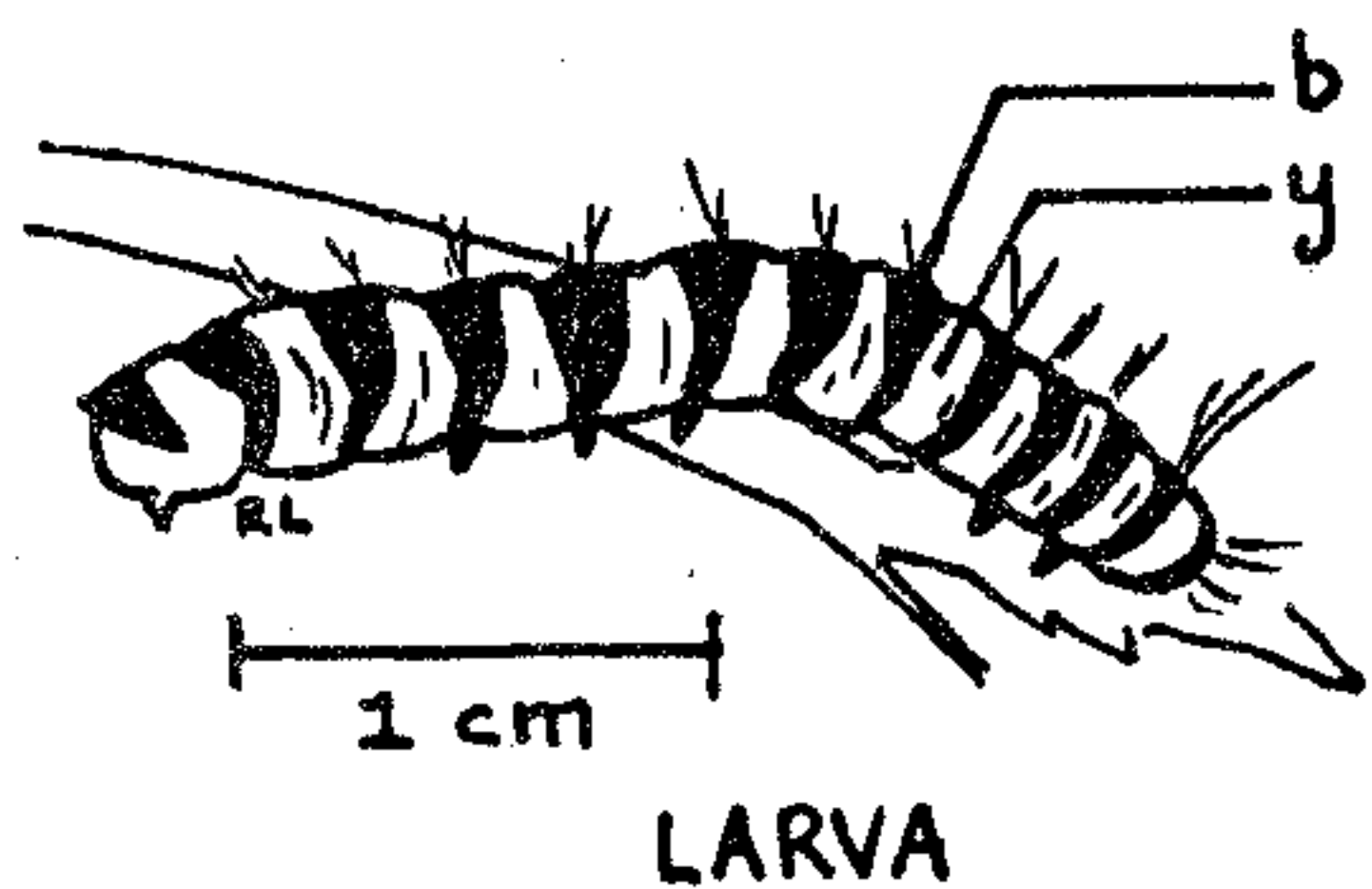
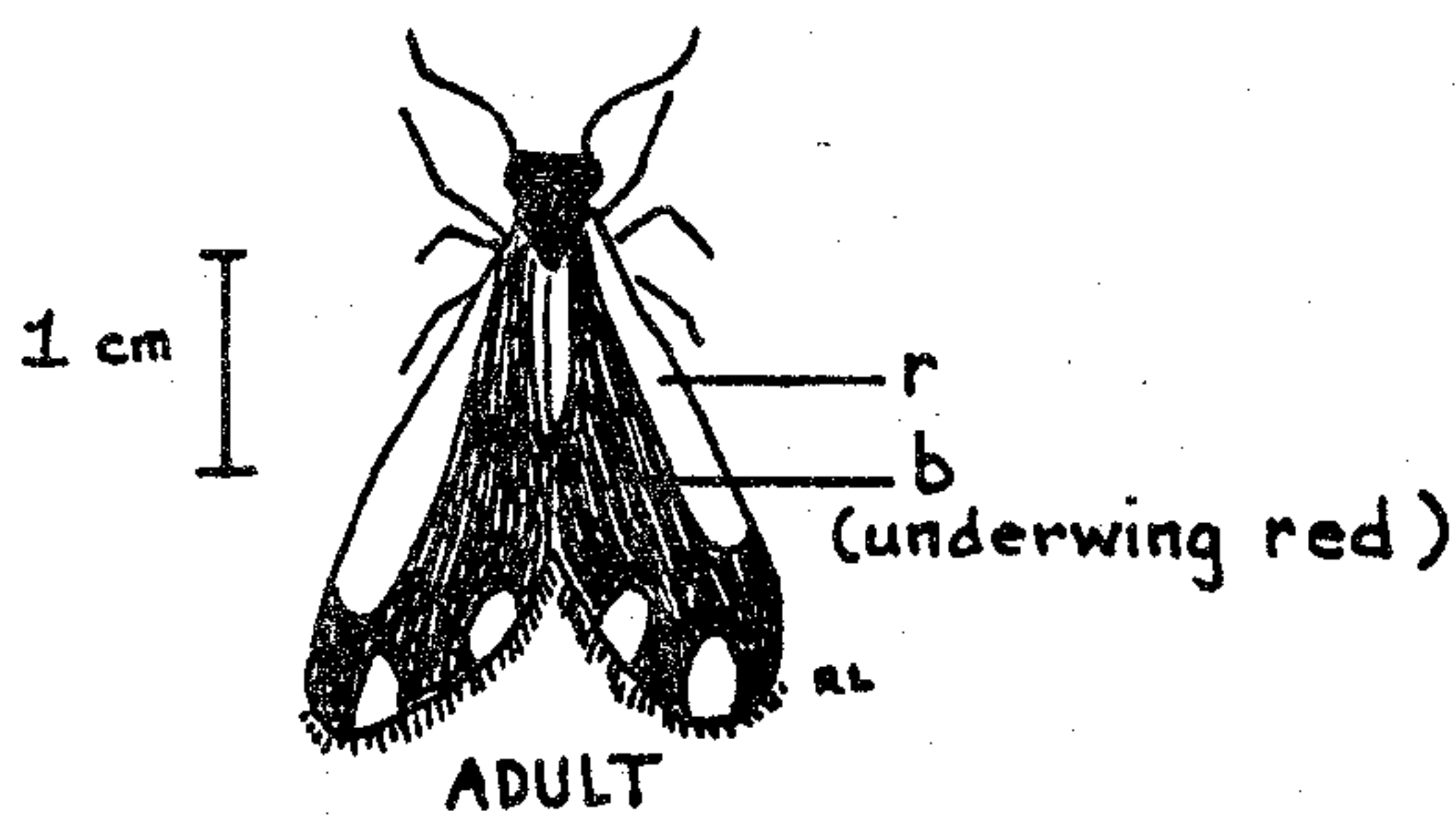
We should all be aware of the problem of possible host-switching in the cinnabar moth. Please report to the editors of this *Bulletin* if you observe adult cinnabars ovipositing or larval cinnabars feeding on native *Senecio* or on other plants.

The larvae are distinctively colored with bright orange (or yellow) and black alternative bands. On tansy ragwort they feed in groups and prefer the flowering heads to the foliage. The moths have a single generation per year. The adults fly from April through July and lay their yellow eggs in clusters on the under surfaces of leaves. The larvae hatch in approximately 2 weeks and feed until late summer. The pupae spend the winter on the ground near the plants. (See Oregon State Extension Service Circular #796.)

(Note: Cinnabar moths are not at the present time controlling the rapid spread of tansy ragwort in Western Oregon, and biological control agents are testing a European ragwort-eating root weevil as a possible additional control agent.)

Rhoda Love
Emerald Chapter

Cinnabar moth
(*Tyria jacobaea*)



b=black, r=red, y=yellow

[Editor's note: I have noticed many Cinnabar moth larvae on a variety of weeds in my garden, although the only plant I am sure the larvae are foraging on is the annual weed, *Senecio vulgaris*. John Christy also reported the larvae on another weedy *Senecio*, *S. sylvaticus*, in clearcuts near Mapleton. Unfortunately the moth hasn't restricted itself to introduced European weeds: Dave Wagner in 1979 reported the larvae on *Senecio triangularis*, a native, though common Groundsel.]

Congratulations to Portland's Anne Kowalishen for election as chairman of the Association of Western Native Plant Societies (AWNPS). The following four notes are items of interest from the Society's newsletter, Hesperian.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ELECTED

Officers to serve the Association through the annual meeting in 1981 were elected at the Phoenix meeting. The officers elected are:

CHAIRMAN - Ms. Anne Kowalishen
4949 N.E. 34th
Portland, OR 97211

VICE-CHAIRMAN - Mr. J. Scott Peterson
Dept. Of Botany & Plant Pathology
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523

BULLETIN EDITOR - Mr. R. Mitchel Beauchamp
1843 E. 16th St.
National City, CA 92050

Input from individuals concerned with the native flora is welcome by these officers or individual delegates of member societies.

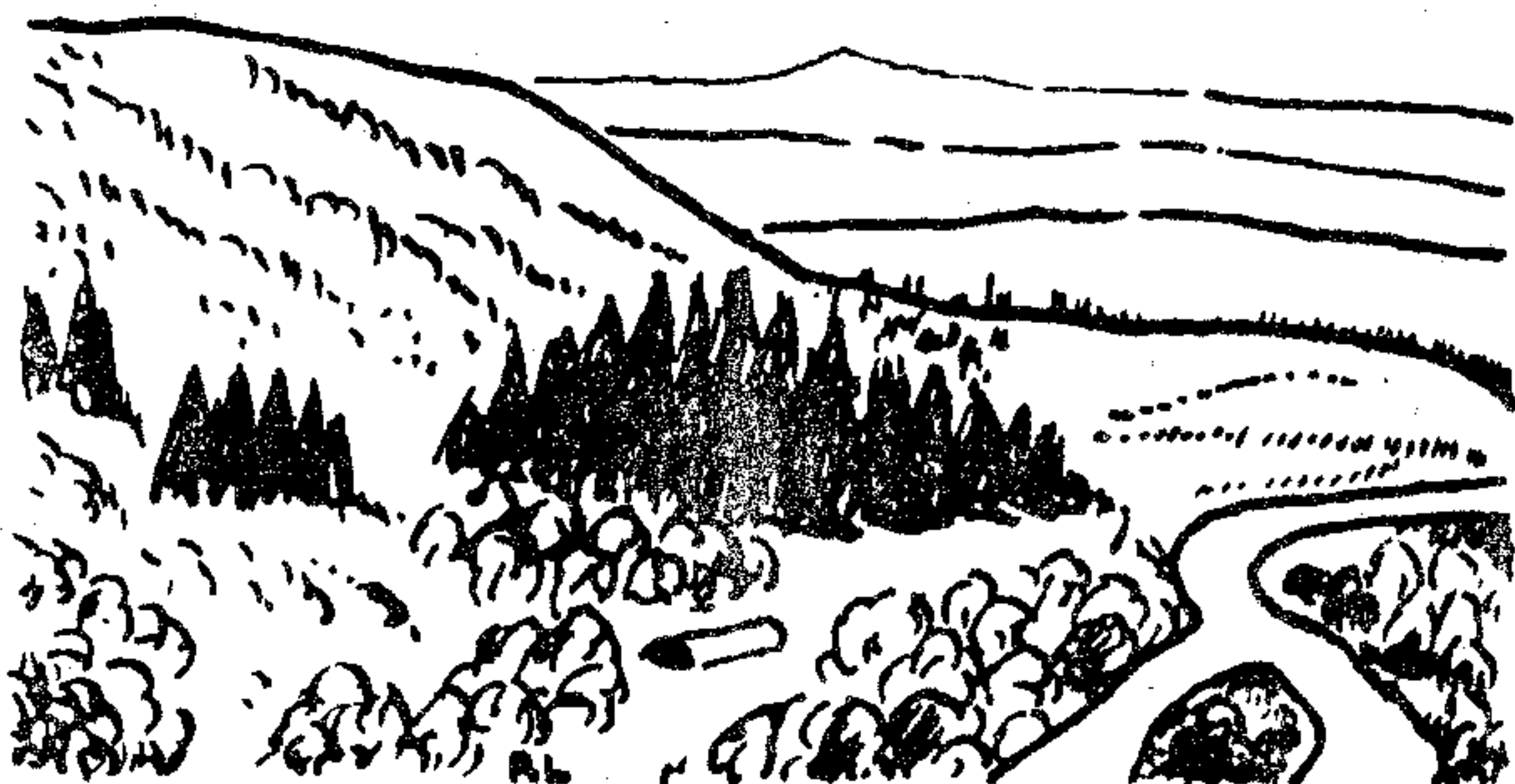
Subscription to the Association newsletter, HESPERIAN, is available to individuals other than officers of member societies at a cost of \$2/year, payable to the AWNPS in care of the Editor

AWNPS SUPPORT APPLAUDED

Organization of the Association of Western Native Plant Societies has involved three separate meetings. Catalyst for initiating the Association would seem to go to Ruth Hansen of the Native Plant Society of Oregon for her encouraging words and constructive comments.

Credit for nurturing the growing Association goes to many others too. Organization for the Nevada meeting was arranged by Loring and Margaret Williams and Kay Fowler; for the Utah meeting, Dick Hildreth and Duane Atwood; and the Arizona meeting, Leroy Brady, Bill McGinnis, Marc Mittleman and Tim Clark. Meeting space was provided by the University of Nevada at Reno; University of Utah and Desert Botanic Gardens. Post-meeting trips were hosted by Native Plants, Inc. and Boyce-Thompson Southwestern Arboretum. Costs for these meetings was borne personally by many members or by meager state society treasuries. It is this dedication to the appreciation of native plants through contributions of money and time that will keep the Association moving along and increasing the number of state societies and chapters.

RMB



AWNPS BYLAWS DRAFT

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY

-Section 1. Purpose of the Society

The purpose of the Association of Western Native Plant Societies is many fold and stated in the following Statement of Purposes:

AWNPS Statement of Purposes:

1. To endorse the purposes and goals of individual societies regarding -
-promotion of public knowledge and awareness of native plants, and
-encouragement of the cultivation and landscape use of native plants.
2. To facilitate exchange of information and cooperative action among native plant societies of the western United States.
3. To formulate and publicize consensus views on acts affecting the native flora.
4. To work toward assuring the continued existence of native vegetative diversity within member states.

AWNPS HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Recently the Association of Western Native Plant Societies held its annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, the 1980 host state. A set of by-laws was adopted, giving us a loose organization form; not too restrictive for membership, not so loose as to fall apart.

It was an exiting meeting. We are now an organization that has the capacity to act on behalf of the native flora of the entire western United States. Our bulletin will receive wide distribution with possibilities for communication with large numbers of people. Our bulletin is set up with self-described "passive editor" Mitch Beauchamp, who is soliciting material from the membership for inclusion into the bulletin. It is the means for all of us to communicate with each other; what projects is your Society working on? How are you raising money? What areas have regional problems that will affect native flora? What ideas do you have for the Association of Western Native Plant Societies?

AWNPS is now into its second year, and with your response, input and energies, it will be an even better year than the first.

Annie Kowalishen





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Contributions to the NPSO BULLETIN or non-delivery notice should be sent to the editor. Others are welcome to use material from the NPSO BULLETIN. Courtesy pleads, however, that credit be given to the author and to the BULLETIN. Copy deadline is the 15th of each month.

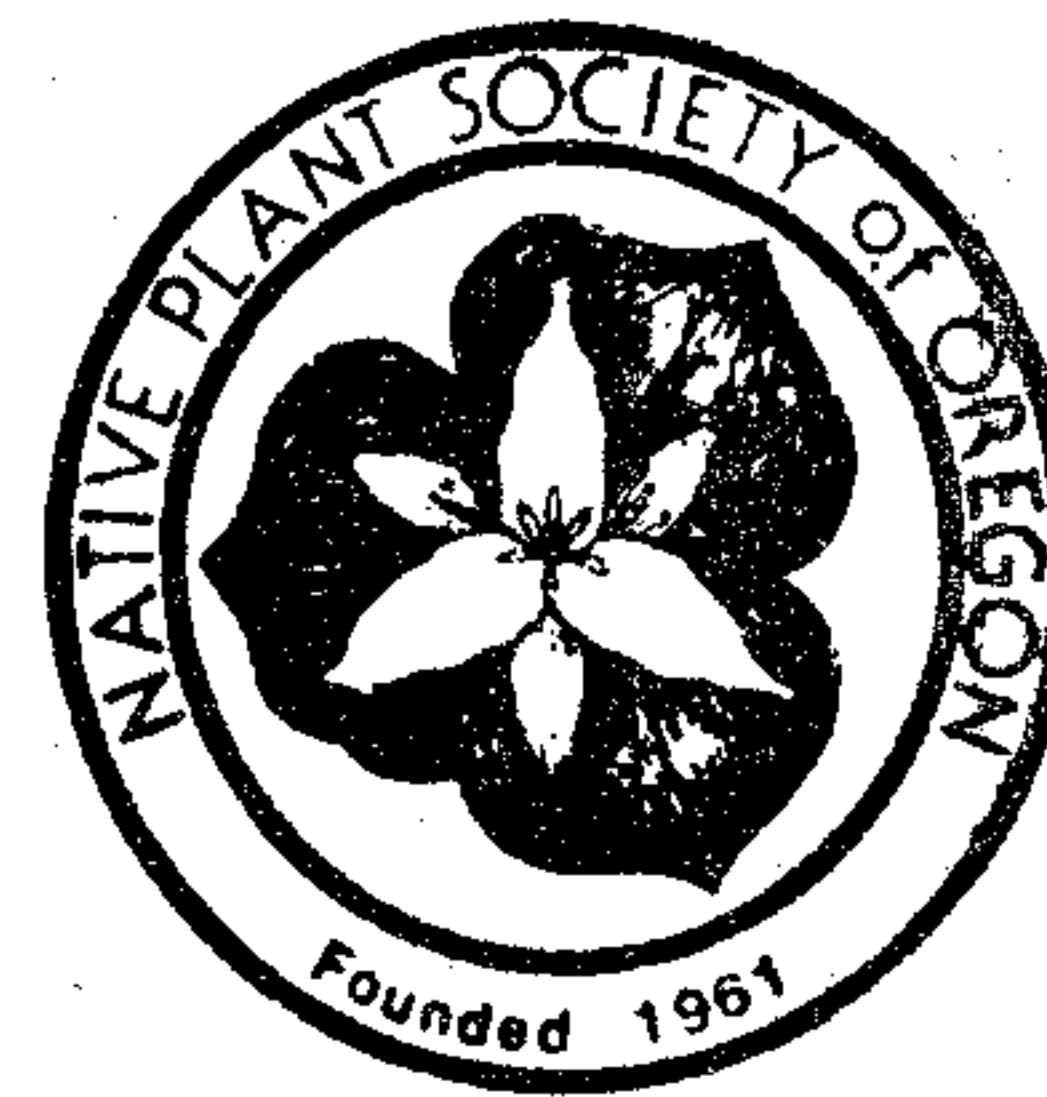


NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

Application for membership

Address change

- Student 5.00
- Regular member 7.50
- Sustaining member 25.00
- Patron 100.00
- Life member 500.00



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