

Bulletin of the

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY of OREGON

25th ANNIVERSARY 1961-1986

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

Volume 19 No. 2

February 1986

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CHAPTER NEWS

Blue Mountain

25 Feb., Tues. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Far West Federal Bldg., Community Room. We will plan field trips for 1986. Presentation to be announced.

18 Mar., Tues. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Far West Federal Bldg., Community Room.

Corvallis

10 Feb., Mon., Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Orchard Court Community Center (Park on 35th St. between Jackson and Orchard..look for OSU Family Housing wooden sign and walk east down nearby wide driveway.. community center is about 50 yards down driveway on left..entrance is to east). Ruth Yungen will speak on THE WALKER CREEK WETLAND.

Emerald

10 Feb., Mon., Meeting, 8:00 p.m. Amazon Park Community Center, North Craft Bldg. J. Marston, biology instructor at Lane Community College, will give a talk and show slides on EDIBLE AND MEDICINAL PLANTS COLLECTED BY FORAGERS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

High Desert

For information about February activities, call Stu Garrett, 389-6981.

Mid Columbia

5 Feb., Wed. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Mosier School.

North Coast

For information about February activities, call Ingeborg Day, 368-5629.

Portland

1 Feb., Sat. Workshop, 10:00 a.m. First Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St. EDIBLE AND POISONOUS PLANTS, with Cal Burt.

8 Feb., Sat. Workshop, 10:00 a.m. First Methodist Church. "BROWN PLANTS OF OREGON"; IDENTIFYING PLANTS IN WINTER, with Louise Godfrey and Esther Kennedy. Please bring a hand lens and a copy of Hitchcock if you have them.

11 Feb., Tues. Meeting, 7:00 p.m. First Methodist Church. Russ Jolley, member and retired amateur botanist, will talk and show slides on the proposed DARK DIVIDE wilderness area in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

15 Feb., Sat. NO WORKSHOP.

22 Feb., Sat. Workshop, 10:00 a.m. First Methodist Church. INTRODUCTION TO MOSS IDENTIFICATION (to be followed with a field trip in March), with John Davis. Bring hand lens, Some Common Mosses of British Columbia by Schofield, B.C. Provincial Museum, or How to Know the Mosses and Liverworts by Conrad.

1 Mar., Sat. Workshop, 10:00 a.m. First Methodist Church. QUICK AND EASY METHODS OF PLANT I.D., with Lois Kemp. Share your short-cuts for telling apart similar plant families or species.

Siskiyou

13 Feb., Thurs. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Room 171, Science Bldg., SOSOC. THE ROGUE-UMPQUA DIVIDE will be the subject of Paul Pearson's slide presentation. Paul is an excellent photographer and offers an armchair view of the scenic qualities and history of this beautiful new wilderness area.

Willamette Valley

17 Feb., Mon. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 600 State St., Salem, Carrier Room (use the Church St. entrance). ANNUAL SLIDE SHOW AND TELL (Bring 10-20 slides to share). CLINT VREY, member, will also give us an update (with slides) on Mimulus tricolor populations near Salem.

17 Mar., Mon. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, Salem. JEAN SIDDALL (Portland Chapter) will be our guest speaker for ALASKA - -WRANGELL TO BARROW.

Wm. Cusick

- - - - For information about February activities, call Andrew Kratz, 963-9358.

REMEMBER, REMEMBER

NPSO dues for 1986 were due January 1st.

TNC PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The fourth lecture in the Winter Series presented by The Nature Conservancy and the World Forestry Center will be on February 11 at 7:30 pm at Forest Hall of the World Forestry Center (Formerly called the Western Forestry Center). Chris Maser, Wildlife Biologist for the BLM, will explore The Secret of the Rotting Log: What It Means to the Future of North American Forests.

W E L C O M E N E W M E M B E R S

CORVALLIS
Laura Morrison
John Orlosky
Donald B. Zobel

HIGH DESERT
Bud Kovalchik

SISKIYOU
Brett Hall
Diane Newell Meyer
Sharon Morris
Frederick Shepard

WM. CUSICK
Ralph Stewart

BIRD CREEK MEADOWS FENCING PROJECT

In May the Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society met with the King Mountain Coordinated Resource Management Group of the Mt. Adams area, a consortium of ranchers, timber owners and state and federal agency representatives, to work out a solution to keeping cattle out of Bird Creek Meadow, one of the outstanding alpine plant communities in the state.

An arrangement was negotiated to replace the neglected five mile length of drift fencing with a new electrified fence that would separate Bird Creek Meadows from the adjoining areas which ranchers were using under grazing permits. Volunteers from the Suksdorfia Chapter agreed to remove the old barbwire; the Bureau of Indian Affairs agreed to survey the new fence line, clear out a swath of brush and trees for placement of the fence, and to supply the fenceposts and electrical fencing; and the ranchers agreed to install and maintain the fencing. In July John Gamon, Frank Ackerman, Beth and Bernie Ryan, Susan Kofahl, and Stuart and Mildred Chapin put in time taking down and rolling up the old barbwire. It was August before the first part of the new fence was in place, too late this year to prevent a foray into the meadows. The last section of the fence will be in place next summer.

(This article was in the November, 1985, issue of the newsletter of the Suksdorfia Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society. Susan, Stuart, and Mildred are members of the Mid-Columbia Chapter of NPSO.)

Here is the current slate of candidates for the 1986-1987 term of office for your review. The official ballot will be presented in the March Bulletin. As always, write-in candidates are accepted on the March ballot. However, should you have any last recommendations right now, please contact Susan Kofahl of the Nominating Committee prior to February 10th; that is the deadline for the March Bulletin.

President Rhoda Love, currently a member of the Emerald Chapter, has served as NPSO President two consecutive terms (1982-3 and 1983-4).

Vice President Tammy Maurer, currently President of the Corvallis Chapter; doctoral studies at U Of O included work on ecology of Lupinus caudatus in Central Oregon; active on Nature Conservancy Research Committees. Other interests include population biology of desert plants, weed ecology, and grassland resoration.

Secretary Florence Ebeling, incumbent, long time member of the Portland Chapter, previous Chapter officer as well as Bulletin editor.

Treasurer Marjorie Ettinger, incumbent, founding member of the High Desert Chapter, amateur botanist, and volunteer at local community college herbarium.

Directors Angela Evenden, graduate student in botany at OSU, has served as Bulletin editor, worked many years as field botanist and ecologist in Eastern Ore., special interest is riparian vegetation ecology.

Donald Eastman, currently President of the Willamette Valley Chapter, retired dentist, does free-lance photography now, concentrating on Oregon's native wildflowers with special emphasis on the R/E species. Member of Mazamas, Nature Conservancy and ONRC.

Julie Kierstead, member of the Portland Chapter, has a bachelor's degree in botany from OSU and a master's from Northern Arizona Univ. She is presently director of the seed bank for T/E plants of the Pacific NW at the Berry Botanical Garden, past editor of the NPSO Bulletin and present state conservation chair, special interest is in the botany and "botano-politics" of Oregon's deserts.

Cooperative moves from every direction are expediting the purchase of a 64-acre tract adjacent to the Tom McCall Preserve of The Nature Conservancy and Mayer State Park, near Mosier. (See Julie Kierstead's description in Dec. 1985 NPSO Bulletin).

In this cooperative project between TNC and the State Parks Division, this speedy sequence is reported by Barbara Robinson, conservation committee chairman for the Tom McCall Preserve:

An option to mid-February has been negotiated by Dave Talbot, State Parks administrator, with the Andersons, property owners, who have generously reduced their price. A matching-funds commitment from State Parks, plus two major gifts from individual donors, brings the amount still needed to less than \$10,000.

Sam Johnson, TNC field office director, calls the tract "a fine addition to TNC and State Park lands, providing superb views of the east end of the Gorge and tremendous wild flower vistas."

The Nature Conservancy, 1234 NW 25th Ave., Portland OR 97210 is accepting donations, tax deductible, indicating "for Anderson property, Rowena."

Open those checkbooks NOW, funds must be in view by Feb. 13. It's the Bargain of '86!



Sisyrinchium
douglasii

(Illustration from Hitchcock et al., *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*; used with permission from the publisher)

Legislative Notes
The Value of Our Native Flora:
A Case History

Meadowfoam illustrates the need to protect our sensitive plant populations. Meadowfoam (Limnanthes R. Br.), a member of the Limnanthaceae family is native to the west coast of North America. The alba species of meadowfoam has recently been domesticated at Oregon State University for production of a high grade oil. With the banning of sperm whale oil into the United States an interest in alternative sources has suggested meadowfoam oil.

Meadowfoam can be grown on poorly drained soils of the Willamette Valley as an alternative to annual ryegrass seed (Lolium multiflorum Lam.). Annual ryegrass is the only crop to date that can be grown with success on these soils. One problem with annual ryegrass is that each summer thousands of acres of fields must be burned. This field burning causes smoke pollution and is offensive to many people. Meadowfoam does not have to be burned.

The seeds of meadowfoam germinate in the late fall. The plant grows vegetatively as a rosette during the winter and has a fibrous root system. Flowers set in late winter or early spring. Each flower can produce up to 5 seeds. Little residue remains after meadowfoam harvest and it does not require burning. The same farm equipment that is used for grass seed production can also be used for meadowfoam.

Proper insect pollination is necessary for high seed yields in commercial varieties. Research to develop a self-pollinating meadowfoam was experimented with 3 subspecies of L. floccosa (ssp. pumila, ssp. bellingera, and ssp. grandiflora). During a three year study only L. floccosa ssp. grandiflora and L. alba produced viable self-pollinating plants. The results of this study show that it is possible to develop self-pollinating meadowfoam with L. alba plant type. Thus the seed yield in this new self-pollinated meadowfoam will not be vulnerable to the many factors which influence honeybee forage and pollination.

All three subspecies of L. floccosa used in the experiment are on the 1985 Oregon Natural Heritage Data Base List as either threatened or endangered. Here is a perfect example why we must work on getting our endangered and threatened species protected so that we can have the gene pool available to use for either medicinal, agricultural or other purposes. Is this our key, meadowfoam--a crop for tomorrow?

Recently, the first sale of meadowfoam oil was 5 tons of oil to Nikko Chemicals Co. LTD. of Tokyo, Japan. This is the result of more than 20 years of work. This makes Oregon the world's first commercial producer of meadowfoam oil.

Even though this is a new exciting discovery with great promise, it is not being given the amount of money or attention that it needs for a stable program. Please take a few moments to write your senator or congressman and ask them what they are doing to help further the research for this new potential crop in Oregon. The federal government should become actively involved in the research and development of this crop. I urge you to write now.

There is a change in the date of the next legislative committee meeting. It will be on Saturday, March 1, in the small conference room (#202) at the Forestry Sciences Laboratory, 3200 Jefferson Way, Corvallis, from 12:30 to 3:30.

Esther Gruber McEvoy
Corvallis Chapter

REWARD OFFER

Help rediscover populations of the more than 200 native rare plants that are now classified as possibly or probably extinct in this country. With proceeds from the sale of the 1986 Endangered Wildflowers Calender, the American Horticultural Society will offer rewards of up to \$250 to non-profit organizations whose friends or members are the first to provide confidential information specifying locations of wild populations of any plants thought to be extinct. The Society will also offer rewards of up to \$100 to those individuals who make these discoveries.

Rewards may also be offered for the discovery of new populations of very rare species, subspecies or varieties that are so limited in numbers that discovery of additional populations will help save the taxon.

These rewards will be made provided that the rediscovered plants and surrounding vegetation are not disturbed in any way. Each discovery must be verified by a professional taxonomist and accepted by a national conservation organization or by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

For a list of rare and possibly extinct species, send a self-addressed, business-size envelope, with 39¢ postage attached, to: American Horticultural Society, Wildflower Rediscovery Project, P.O. Box 0105, Mt. Vernon, VA, 22121. A \$1 contribution would help cover costs.

This calender was described in the December, 1985, issue of the NPSO Bulletin. It can be ordered for \$6.95 from the American Horticultural Society at: Wildflower Calender, AHS, P.O. Box 288, Mt. Vernon, VA, 22121.

LOOSE LEAVES

Conservation Notebook



IS NPSO FAILING ITS BASIC PURPOSE?

NPSO's motto, which appears on the masthead of each of our monthly Bulletins, is "To increase the knowledge of members and public in identification and conservation of the native plants of the Pacific Northwest". It's an awkwardly worded but noble ambition. Are we succeeding? An incident last week, involving a fourth-grade social studies textbook, has left me wondering.

I first heard about the book, Get Oregonized, on January 9, when the Oregonian printed an article headlined "Critics assail pro-industry bent of textbook". The article pointed out that the book's production was underwritten by local timber and agriculture groups, including the Oregon Wheat Commission, Willamette Industries, and the Oregon Beef Council, and went on to quote passages of the text describing several ways of killing coyotes and suggesting that Oregonians must change federal laws to allow plowing and seeding of public land for the benefit of local ranchers.

Well, I was intrigued. I called around--no one had heard of it. I finally located a copy and read it later in the day. It was an eye-opener. The book was written by teachers from various parts of the state, and was edited by Oregon State University education professor Rod Fielder; it is intended to cover Oregon's history, geography, natural resources, and important industries.

The aim of producing a book by Oregonians about Oregon for Oregon kids is admirable. Grade school teachers complain that social studies is everyone's least favorite subject because the texts are dull and not written for local consumption. Since Oregon has such a small share of the national textbook market, authors pay little attention to Oregon in their books.

Most of Get Oregonized is innocuous enough; the forest products industry is described in great and lively detail, as are farming and ranching. The depiction of old-growth forest rated a raised eyebrow--it is described as dark and unhealthy, with only a few pallid sword ferns and underweight deer, while new forest (i.e. clearcut) is full of light with lots of food for fat healthy deer. Clearcuts are undoubtedly good for deer, but forests are not deer farms. There is not even a passing mention of the important roles of old growth in recycling nutrients and maintaining water purity, nor of the plants and animals which prefer a closed forest canopy.

The last two pages are the only truly offensive part of Get Oregonized. After telling how Grant County rancher Rich Wilburn removed the sagebrush and juniper from his land, thinned the trees, and planted crested wheatgrass to increase the forage for his cattle, the book concludes with the following passage, titled "The Public Land":

What is being done by the private land owner is good for their [sic] land and the wildlife in the area. Then why isn't this plan being used on public land?

Part of the plan is being used, but it is only being done in small pieces. There isn't a total effort by everyone in the area. It is difficult to get many people to work on such a large area of land. Here are some of the reasons why this plan isn't used on public land.

It costs a lot of money to do the things to the land that Wilburn did. People don't like their tax dollars spent now for something that will take several years to provide benefits. And, jobs in the Forest Service and other agencies would change. New jobs would be created, and other jobs would be lost. These changes must be thought about carefully.

When things have been one way for a long time, it is difficult to change. There are laws on how to use the forest land that would have to be changed. It takes a lot of time to change laws.

The most important reason why this plan isn't used on public land is that people don't know about it. Educating people like you is important. You need to know and understand what can be done to the land and resources. You also need to know how much it would help the land and resources. Only when people know how much it will help the land and the animals will they be willing to change.

If we are going to have the type of public land we want in the year 2000, we need to start planning now. Plans have to be formed and carried out. You fourth graders reading this book are Oregon's future. Oregon belongs to you in the year 2000. Are you willing to work to keep our state great?

This isn't fourth-grade text material--this is a call to arms for footsoldiers of the Sagebrush Rebellion! The trouble with this book, though, is not so much what's in it as what's left out. Oregon is more than just the sum of its larger industries.

Well, it's taken me a long time to get to the point, which is that we are ignoring a major NPSO constituency: children. Almost all our activities are geared toward adults. We have no committee which produces educational materials for schoolchildren, no one who visits schools on a regular basis.

We do have a new, colorful poster of Oregon wildflowers. Let's use it to get our foot in the door of Oregon's primary school system. After reading Get Oregonized, I can only conclude that the teachers need information as badly as the kids do.

By the way, there will be a formal hearing on the adoption of Get Oregonized by the Oregon State Board of Education in Salem on the evening of February 5.

Julie

Julie Kierstead
State Conservation Chair

Management of BLM Wilderness Areas

BLM has always had wild country in the domain it administers, but it was not until the Federal Land Policy and Management Act was passed by Congress in 1976 that the agency gained the authority to manage designated Wilderness. Official wilderness designation is the prerogative of the U.S. Congress.

BLM administers only two designated Wildernesses in Oregon and Washington -- Table Rock on the headwaters of the Molalla River in the Salem District and Juniper Dunes in Central Washington. However, undoubtedly there will be more after recommendations proceed through the system to Congress.

BLM's Wilderness areas are managed according to a policy adopted in 1981 based on guidance found in the 1964 Wilderness Act and the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act. They direct BLM to preserve the wilderness character of designated areas and to provide opportunities for people to use them.

In addition to these "accepted" uses, Congress also said certain "nonconforming" uses may occur in Wilderness areas. Examples of "accepted" and "nonconforming" uses are provided below.

This is a summary of the management policy. You can pick up a copy of the full policy from any BLM District Office which manages Wilderness Study Areas or Wilderness Areas or from the BLM State Office, 825 NE Multnomah Street, in Portland.

Note: The policies summarized here apply to management of Congressionally designated WILDERNESS AREAS; they do not apply to management of wilderness STUDY AREAS. Wilderness study areas are managed according to the "Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review." You can obtain a copy of the Interim Management Policy from BLM district and state offices.

GENERAL POLICIES

The general wilderness management policies are:

Naturalness: natural ecosystems and ecological processes will be allowed to function naturally and with minimal human influence.

Solitude: natural settings will be preserved and evidence of human activities will be minimized.

Special Features: ecological, geological, and historical features will be preserved unimpaired.

Visitor Use: Only the minimum facilities needed to protect the health and safety of visitors or to preserve wilderness values will be installed. When use of an area threatens to impair wilderness values, use will be managed or limited to prevent impairments.

Wilderness Management Plan: A management plan will be prepared for each designated Wilderness area. It will apply national policies to the specific situation in the area.

ACCEPTED USES

Accepted uses in Wilderness include:

Camping, hiking, crosscountry
Camping, hiking, cross-country skiing, backpacking, horsepacking, rockhounding.
Nonmotorized boating.
Hunting, fishing, noncommercial trapping.
Scientific and educational studies of biological, geological, cultural, and historical features.

NONCONFORMING BUT ACCEPTED USES

Examples of other uses allowed by law in Wilderness areas are:

Mining claims:

New claims cannot be established after the area is withdrawn from the mining laws through wilderness designation.

After an area is designated Wilderness, miners may explore, develop, and obtain title to claims which were valid before designation.

Except for casual uses resulting in negligible disturbances of wilderness values, BLM must approve operating plans. In approving the operating plan, BLM must ensure that the miner's rights are protected and impacts on wilderness values are minimized.

Mineral Leasing:

No new leases will be issued after an area is designated Wilderness. Leases existing at the time of designation will be managed to protect wilderness values to the extent possible, but lessees may exercise the rights conferred when they obtained the leases.

Livestock Grazing:

Livestock grazing, where established before Wilderness designation, can continue; grazing will not be curtailed simply because an area is designated Wilderness. Any adjustments in the number of livestock allowed in a Wilderness area will be made through BLM's normal grazing and land management planning and policy-setting processes. Due consideration will be given to legal mandates, range condition, and the need to prevent range deterioration. Where rangeland conditions permit increases in grazing, they will be limited to levels that do not diminish wilderness values.

Facilities used in livestock operations, such as fences, line cabins, and stock tanks, may be maintained and replaced. New livestock grazing facilities may be constructed if they are needed to protect the rangeland and/or wilderness resource, rather than to accommodate increased livestock numbers.

Wild Horse Management:

Viable, healthy populations of wild horses will be maintained in Wilderness areas which contain wild horse herd management areas designated under the provisions of the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971. Herd numbers and management techniques will not be substantially degraded, and will be compatible with preserving wilderness character.

Motorized and mechanical equipment such as temporary corrals will be allowed when no alternatives exist, if they are the minimum

necessary to accomplish the task, and if they are the least degrading to wilderness values.

Fire, Insect, Disease Management:

Fires will be controlled to prevent loss of human life or property within Wilderness areas or to prevent spread to areas outside of Wilderness where life, resources, or property may be threatened. Human-caused wildfires will be prevented and/or controlled unless they meet Wilderness fire management objectives.

To return some Wilderness ecosystems to a more natural state, natural fires may be allowed to burn, but only in conformance with an approved fire management plan and the overriding guidance in the preceding paragraph.

Prescribed burning may be allowed to meet specific objectives listed in the Wilderness Management Policy.

Insect and disease outbreaks will be artificially controlled only if necessary to protect timber or other valuable resources outside a Wilderness, or in special instances when losses within a Wilderness (for example, a threatened or endangered species) are undesirable.

Water Resource Developments:

Water resource facilities which existed before the area was designated Wilderness may be used and maintained if such use is in the public interest or is a valid existing right.

Access to Non-Federal Lands

States or persons, and their successors in interest, who own land completely surrounded by a Wilderness area shall be given necessary rights to assure adequate access to their land. "Adequate access" is the combination of routes and modes of travel which will, as determined by BLM, cause the least lasting impact on wilderness values and at the same time serve the reasonable purpose for which the state or private land is held.

Gathering Information On Resources:

Activities to gather information about natural resources will be permitted if they do not impair wilderness values.

Motorized equipment and vehicles may be used for such activities only with BLM approval and BLM will grant such authorization only if wilderness values would not be degraded.

PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN USES

Except for existing private rights, where necessary to administer the Wilderness area according to the purposes of the Wilderness Act, or as specifically provided for elsewhere in the management policy, there will be no permanent or temporary roads; no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or motor boats; no aircraft landings; no other form of mechanical transport; no structure or installation; and no commercial enterprise within Wilderness areas.

BUFFER ZONES PROHIBITED

No buffer zones will be created around Wilderness areas to protect them from the influence of activities on adjacent land.

MOTORIZED AND MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

Travel in a Wilderness area normally will be by nonmotorized, nonmechanical means

consistent with preserving wilderness values.

Wilderness area management plans will specify the instances and places where administrative use of mechanized equipment, mechanical transport, or aircraft is necessary to protect and administer the Wilderness area; or is necessary to accomplish a nonconforming, but accepted, use.

Where approved, equipment will be the minimum necessary to accomplish the task with the least lasting and damaging impact on wilderness values.

Motorized and mechanical equipment use will be scheduled at times and locations which will have the least impact on visitor's wilderness experience.

Examples of some of the conditions under which motorized and mechanical equipment may be allowed are:

1. Public use of aircraft or motor boats, where established before the area was designated Wilderness.
2. For mining or prospecting purposes if approved in a plan of operations or related to valid existing rights.
3. In some situations involving livestock grazing operations,
4. In emergency conditions involving the health and safety of visitors.
5. During a fire suppression emergency.

Other possible uses of motorized and mechanical equipment are listed in the management policy.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS

In legislation designating specific Wilderness areas, Congress may establish management rules which override those in the Wilderness Act or BLM's Wilderness Management Policy.

OTHER MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The Wilderness management policy booklet available from BLM offices contains guidelines on other topics not included in this summary, such as recreation and visitor use, cultural and historical resources, forest resources, fish and wildlife, and water resource management.

(This article was in the BLM News Oregon and Washington in June, 1985.)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
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PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

DISTRICTS

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S., P.O. Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630.
Phone 947-2177. Jerry Asher, Mgr.

Klamath Falls Resource Area - 1939 S. 6th Street, P.O. Box 369,
Klamath Falls, OR 97601. Phone 883-6916. Steve Sherman, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S. Alford St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-5241. Joshua
Warburton, Mgr.

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Hugh Shera, Mgr.

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Robert T. Dale, Mgr.

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456-2570. Joseph Buesing, Mgr.

Wenatchee Resource Area - 1133 N. Western Avenue, Wenatchee,
WA 98801. Phone (509) 662-4223. Jim Fisher, Mgr.

learning the flowers

can i tell the pleasure can i say anything
that will tell you something of it
the hard work the forgotten time
the fulfillment the plain pleasure of knowing?

on any and many a spring day going out
into the forest the field spending much sun
much wind finding so many all blooming colors
of things bringing them back

then sitting in the darkening room with the light
the lens the book and looking so back and forth
and touching and seeing the shapes and the feels
the colors the numbers of things on the table

the keys that unlock the descriptions that tell
the names that are ringing the music my tongue
says them softly i write them all down and now
every color of flower has its name

the next time then walking abroad in the sun
i am not alone though no person is near
for friends i can speak to and call them by name
are growing and touching my feet and my eyes.

norman h russell

Dr. Norman H. Russell is associated with the Department of Biology, Central State Oklahoma State University, Edmond, Oklahoma. His descriptive poem appeared several years ago in WILDFLOWERS OF THE NORTHERN PLAINS AND BLACK HILLS by Dr. Theodore Van Bruggen, published by the Badlands Natural History Association, South Dakota. With the help of Dr. David McGinnis, Chief Naturalist of the Badlands National Park, we were able to contact Dr. Russell and have his permission as well as that of the Natural History Association to print this delightful and pertinent poem in the NPSO Bulletin.

Vi Sobolik
Willamette Valley Chapter



B O O K R E V I E W

Familiar Friends: Northwest Plants
by Rhoda Whittlesey; Rose Press, Portland, 1985;
212 pp., \$9.95 paper.

Familiar Friends suffers from less-than-good printing, editing, and layout; yet the book somehow overcomes these handicaps by virtue of its content. Rhoda Whittlesey's love of plants and of young people led her to a long career as "nature lady" for several Portland-area Camp Fire camps and for Tryon Creek State Park. This book is a compilation of the information she has gathered about plant names and uses of over 200 native and naturalized species of western Oregon and Washington. The leaf-prints used to illustrate the text are attractive and kind of a nice change from the standard line drawings or photos usually seen. Size reduction of the prints varies from none to great, but scale is not indicated except in extreme cases.

For me, the best feature of the book is a list of botanists who have been and are important to the Pacific Northwest. Fifty-three names are listed, each with a biographical blurb. Some are famous plant explorers, others are authors of NW plant names, and the rest are theorists, from Aristotle to Armen Takhtajan. I have often wished for such a reference.

Familiar Friends has too many typographical errors, the printing is inconsistently dark, and on some pages the print shows through from the back of the page. These problems can be corrected in subsequent printings. The arrangement of plants in the book is a more serious problem, and one I found irritating. The plants are alphabetical by common name, but what an involuted alphabet! White False Hellebore is with the F's, as are Fairy Bells and Fawn Lily. California Figwort is also with the F's, but Grand Fir is with the G's. English Daisy is under 'D', but so is Daisy Fleabane. It's fortunate that the index is good, because it will get a workout.

Rhoda Whittlesey describes her book as a browsing book, not an identification manual, and I agree. Many NPSO members will enjoy it, especially those in western Oregon where all the plants in the book are close at hand.

Julie Kierstead
Portland Chapter

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- NPSO Wildflower Poster Alan Curtis
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- Notecards George Lewis
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Type your own headline, centered, all caps. In case of special formats, e.g. plant keys, you are free to choose the layout.

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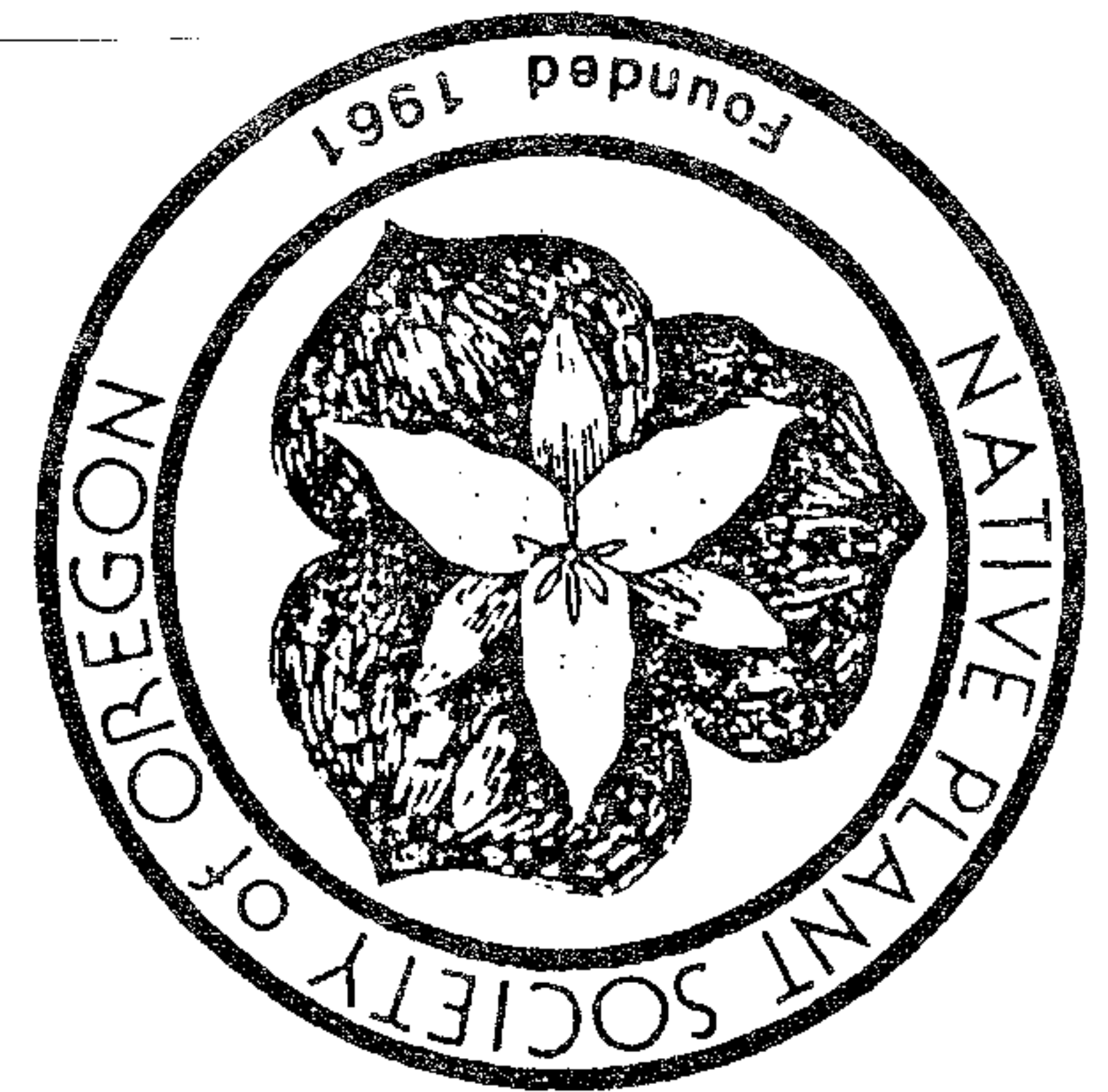
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