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

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## CHAPTER NEWS

# Blue Mountain

For information, contact Bruce Barnes, 276-5547.

# Corvallis

For field trip information, contact Dan Luoma, 758-8063.

# Emerald

2 Aug., Sat.

Field Trip to Little Brother Crater near Three Sisters. Leave at 6:00 am from the South Eugene High School. Leader is Leighton Ho (345-3252). This will involve a 6 mile hike each way.

? Sept.

Field Trip to Lily Lake. Date and time to be decided. If you have a preference for a date, let Leighton Ho know (345-3252).

# High Desert

2 Aug., Sat.

Field Trip: BOG TRIP. Meet at MacDonalds lot at 9:00 am for a trip to a local bog. Leader is Al Chambers (382-8365).

23 Aug., Sat.

Field Trip to BROKEN TOP. Meet at MacDonalds lot at 9:00 am. Bring lunch. Leader is Stu Garrett ( 389-6981).

# Mid Columbia

6 Aug., Wed.

Meeting, 7:30 pm. Monthly meeting will be at Stuart and Mildred Chapin's home, near the end of Eyrie Road, off Route 141, just past White Salmon. Call 509-493-2823 for more directions.

# North Coast

For information, contact Richard Smith (842-4324).

# Portland

2 Aug., Sat.

Field Trip to UPPER CLACKAMAS. Destination will depend on where the flowers are at their best. Leave at 8:00 am from the K-Mart on SE 82nd, Milwaukie Expressway, SW corner of parking lot; or meet leader at Ripplebrook Ranger Station at 9:30 am. Leader is Ron Auler (834-2216).

9 Aug., Sat.

Field Trip to PAPOOSE LAKES, south of Breitenbush Lake. Leave at 8:00 am from the K-Mart at SE 82nd, Milwaukie Expressway, SW corner of parking lot, or call leader for driving instructions. Leader is Florence Ebeling (244-4122).

No meeting in August.

- PICNIC at SAUVIE ISLAND. An easy stroll on Oak Island followed by a picnic at the Bybee-Howell House. Bring your own picnic lunch. Meet at 9:00 am at Bybee-Howell House. Turn left after crossing the Sauvie Island Bridge, drive a little over 1/2 mile, Bybee-Howell House is on the right side of road there is a sign. Leader is Esther Kennedy (287-3091).
- Field Trip to CEDAR FLATS RNA and WINDY RIDGE VIEWPOINT, MT. ST.HELENS. Leave at 8:00am from south end of K-Mart parking lot, 122nd and Sandy, or meet leader at Pine Creek Information Center, south end of Swift Reservoir, about 9:30 am. From I-5 take Hwy 503 Exit at Woodland, drive east on Hwy 503 and USFS Rd. 90 for 45 to 50 miles to Pine Creek Info. Station. Leader is Lois Kemp (760-4998).
- 30 Aug., Sat. Field Trip to MCNEIL POINT, MT. HOOD. Leave at 8:00 am from the K-Mart on 82nd Milwaukie Expressway, SW corner of parking lot or meet at Zigzag Ranger Station at 9:00am. Leader is Don Eastman (472-2829).

# Siskiyou

2 Aug., Sat. Field Trip to WAGNER BUTTE. A chance to see Delphiniums, lupines and other flowers along with pretty scenery. This will be a moderate hike with some off-trail walking and climbing. Meet at 8:00 am at Medford K-Mart or 8:30 am at Ashland Bi-Mart. Leader is Vern Crawford (482-9196).

# Willamette Valley

- 16 Aug., Sat. Field Trip to MT. HOOD for wildflowers. Call leader, Bill Egan (393-2131), for meeting time and place.
- A 3-day backpacking field trip to the EAST SIDE OF MIDDLE SISTER. Call 390-2257 for details. Leaders are Wally and Heike Eubanks.
  - --- No meeting in August.
- 15 Sept., Mon. Meeting, 7:30 pm. Willamette University, Collins Hall, Room 118. INTRODUCTION TO GRASS IDENTIFICATION, a workshop by Lois Kemp.

# Wm. Cusick

9 Aug., Sat. Field Trip to ANTHONY LAKES to see subalpine flora. Meet at 9:00 am in the parking lot next to the Mt. Emily Food Co-op at Jefferson and Fourth. Contact: Andrew Kratz (963-9358).

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

NORTH COAST SISKIYOU CORVALLIS Charles Wooldridge Sam Khouri Alice Andres Ellen Deehan PORTLAND WILLAMETTE VALLEY LIMERALD William Aegerter Willamette National Forest Eugene Berke Ilene Beeson Verna Hanson Susan Lafontaine Jeanne Biden Merilee Meiners Rosemary & James Brinkman Jean White MID-COLUMBIA Janet Gadsby David Summers

Judy Chilcote

Sandra Haynie

David Summers

Linda Golaszewski

Dorothy Lois Kenney

Marilyn McCabe

Janet McLennon

Gary Stebbins

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!!

NPSO has been engaged in an ongoing discussion with the Bureau of Land Management about grazing in their Research Natural Areas (RNAs). As a demonstration of NPSO's concern that grazing be removed from these areas, we volunteered to help the Bureau with a fencing project of an RNA. This project will take place over Labor Day weekend, August 29-September 1, 1986, at the Silver Creek RNA, located about 20 miles north of Riley on the boundary of the Ochoco National Forest. Eventually 2 miles of fence needs to be reconstructed-we will take on as much as we will be able to finish over the weekend. Volunteers are needed!!! We will camp in the area. For more information and/or to volunteer your help, please contact Carolyn Wright/Dave Gross at Rt. 1, Box 55, Dufur, OR 97021 (467 2218). Please let us know by mid-August if you will be able to help with this worthwhile project. See you there!

### COLUMBIA GORGE HEARING IN STEVENSON, WA., AUGUST 1st

The House Agriculture Committee is holding a hearing on the Columbia Gorge Legislation in the Rock Creek Auditorium at 9:30 am (Stevenson, WA.). Testimony will be limited to those with advance registration, but people can attend even if they are not testifying. The more people that show up in support, the better.

R/E PLANT SITE REPORT REWARD OFFER ENDS SEPT. 1

Site reports must be submitted to the R/E Plant Committee by Sept. 1 to count toward the reward offered (see <u>Bulletin</u> for March 1986, p.26). However, please continue to submit reports through the season.

### NEW MOUNT ST. HELENS MAP/BROCHURE AVAILABLE

The USDA Forest Service has produced an attractive, full-color relief map/brochure for the Mt. St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. A relief map, covering one entire side, depicts major geologic features and scenic viewpoints. Travel routes, hiking trails, and other points of interest, are identified to help visitors plan for an enjoyable experience. Facilities, both within and adjacent to the Monument, are also highlighted. The text side is a full-color mural of photographs and drawings with a narrative describing the volcanic activity of Mount St. Helens and surrounding lands over the past 2,000 years. This publication is available for \$1.00 at Monument Headquarters, Gifford Pinchot National Forest Ranger District Offices, and the Forest Supervisor's Office at 500 West 12th St. Vancouver, WA., 98660.

### NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The board of directors needs your advice. We are thinking about selling our mailing list to very specific groups such as native plant nurseries, natural history bookstores and the like (only with board approval) whose services or goods are of interest to our membership. We would not sell the list to be used to solicit funds.

We are also thinking about selling advertisements in the bulletin to similar groups. We would set up atrict guidelines to assure that the sale of advertising space (and the list) would be in the best interest of the Society.

Please discuss this at your fall meetings. It will be an agenda item at the fall board meeting.

Frank A. Lang, Acting President

#### OLD GROWTH FOREST MULTI-MEDIA EVENT IN PORTLAND

The spectacular multi-image slideshow, "Northwest Old Growth Forests: A Vanishing Legacy", will be presented on September 9th at 7pm at the Northwest Service Center in Portland.

Sponsored by a consortium of conservation organizations throughout the Pacific Northwest, including several Audubon chapters, the National Wildlife Federation, the Oregon Natural Resources Council, the Mountaineers, and several others, it utilizes the breathtaking photography of professional photographers Diane Kelsey and Gary Braasch.

The show will include an introduction by one of the leading ecologists in the field of old growth forest research, and a wine and cheese reception. A donation of \$2 to offset the cost of the event is requested. For more information in Portland, contact Nancy Peterson, 236-9772.

### TWO NPSO GRANTS AWARDED

NPSO awarded 2 grants for BLM Wilderness Study Area plant surveys. Lois Kemp and Peter Zika are conducting a field survey of the Long Draw Research Natural Area in SE Oregon. Carolyn Wright and David Gross are developing preliminary plant species lists for Mickey Basin, Long Draw and Silver Creek RNA's, also in SE Oregon.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . .

Dear Fellow NPSOers.

We are still here in Europe, but our time is getting short. We will fly to the U.S. in 3 weeks and by the time you read this I will be back in Oregon. I was thinking of all of you last week at Annual Meeting time and wishing I could have been with you in Corvallis. I very much appreciate Frank Lang's willingness to remain in charge of our society until my return.

I would like to outline here several important goals which I hope can be accomplished during this year of my presidency.

Our number one priority I think has to be to convince our Oregon legislators that Oregon needs a state Rare and Endangered Species law in order to adequately protect our threatened species. Esther McEvoy and her committee have been working very hard for over 2 years now laying the groundwork for our effort during the 1987 Legislative Session. I hope that all chapters and individual members will join in this important campaign.

Other important goals that deserve our attention are: Formation of a strong Education Committee to oversee an NPSO program to increase public aware-

ness (especially, as Julie Kierstead pointed out last spring, awareness among children) of the importance of native vegetation and natural plant habitats.

We must also continue the good work begun by Barbara Fox, Carolyn Wright and others in working with our federal agencies to protect plant communities on BIM and Forest Service land, especially but not exclusively in desert areas.

We need to give our strong support to Jean Siddall and her R & E Committee in their work to locate and monitor species on the Study List. I feel strongly that all chapters should take part in this important work.

And I hope to see us strengthen our relationships with state and national organizations and agencies with whom we cooperate to protect our native Oregon plants and their habitats.

I am looking forward to our fall Board meeting when we can discuss the above goals and plan strategies for moving forward during this year. Please write to me with your ideas and agenda items.

Best regards, Rhoda Love



Last month's column about the <u>Penstemon barrettiae</u> relocation effort at Bonneville may have given the impression that Bonneville Project staff were less than enthusiastic about the idea of saving the penstemon. Not so. Staff biologists favored relocation of the plants as soon as it became clear that their cliff home will be demolished for lock construction. Project staff have been unfailingly helpful in carrying out salvage work with <u>P. barrettiae</u>.

\* \* \*

What is a plant conservationist? The question is explored by Oregon-born conservation worker Linda McMahan in the July/August issue of <u>Garden</u>, published by New York Botanical Garden.

The love of wild plants and their native haunts is not the exclusive preserve of botanists. The amateur wildflower lover can have a remarkable effect on public sentiment toward wild plants. Conservation is a field where everyone can contribute.

The scientist can contribute the technical understanding of plant genetics and ecological relationships which helps land owners and government agencies to make land management decisions favoring the survival of wild plant populations. While this is an important facet of plant conservation, it is often given undue weight because of our need to prove that we are not being "emotional" about wildflowers. Strangely, "emotional" has become a

pejorative term in some conservation circles.

We mustn't forget the emotional underpinnings of our commitment to conservation. Those of us who are avocational botanists and enthusiasts, unshackled by the professional's need to be dispassionate, can contribute by arousing that emotional response, introducing friends, neighbors, and children to the delights of the plant world, taking photographs, writing field trip reports, organizing wildflower shows, generally spreading the word. Don't ever think that because you are not paid to say wise botanical things that your words are unimportant.

The gardener can contribute experience gained in growing native plants at home. Propagation and growing techniques are crucial to successful reintroduction efforts. Display of native plants in botanic gardens serves to familiarize people with them, to forge that emotional attachment that is the forerunner of conservation commitment.

The political activist plays a sometimes unpleasant but increasingly important role in conservation, spending hours on the phone and long days at dull hearings. Someone has to be willing to fight for the local, state, and federal laws which protect plants from whims of unenlightened officials and short-sighted industrial actions.

Linda McMahan brings to her work a background in plant chemistry and law that has led her to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and World Wildlife Fund, and now to The Center for Plant Conservation. Few of us are as gifted and knowledgeable, but each of us has something to give. All that is required is a love of wild plants.

Julie Kierstead State Conservation Chair NPSO recognizes a need to reach out to the young. Spurred by the controversial Get Oregonized 4th grade textbook, increasing our efforts in grammar schools and developing an education committee were discussed at our January Board meeting. Consensus was that we need to begin concentrating more of our energies on youth. The majority of our programs have been directed toward the general public. Reaching groups of young people can be done through various means which NPSO will likely explore. I'd like to present the possibility of reaching out to a young person on a one to one basis.

Last June I became a "big sister" through my local state-operated Volunteer Services program. My "little sister", Ann, is 12 years old. By mutual agreement we spend several hours a week together. Although we have done a variety of activities together (ie. bowling, movies, County Fair, the Ballet) our favorites have been the many hikes and outdoor picnics we've enjoyed.

April 30th I picked Ann up after work and we crossed the bridge from Hood River over to Washington. Driving east toward Lyle, I intended to introduce her to Bitterroot in bloom! Soon after our turn-off by Rowland Lake we were presented with a wonderful show of lupines, sunflowers and Mimulus. Next the Penstemon barrettiae, so strategically placed on the sheer basalt cliffs, drew loud exclamations from us both. Ann is unaccustomed to meanderings in rural areas with relatively no experience on the Washington side of the Columbia River. Her fresh enthusiasm for nature's free display increased my own.

Upon parking and entering the Trust for Public Land's area of Catherine Creek, we were rewarded by the exquisitely beautiful blooms of Lewisia rediviva.

Masses of Plectritis and Erodium mingled with many Brodiaea howellii slowed our progress up the path. Repeating both the common and the Latin names, we turned a large bend by the creek. Here a shaded hill-side was still blooming with Saxifraga, Lithophragma, a few Crocidium, and a multitude of Orobanche uniflora. The parasitic relationship of Orobanche to Saxifraga was explained.

We also marvelled at the different blues of Delphinium and Camassia. We talked about the Indians and their appreciation and use of native plants, especially the Camas. We smelled each species along the way; recognizing the strong Lomatium scent without getting nose-close, and finding others that have no smell at all.

We scrambled up a rocky hillside, carefully avoiding the poison oak. Sitting atop that wonderful basalt archway, we discussed Columbia Gorge land preservation over a picnic supper. An occassional Meadowlark provided musical background. I explained that we could experience these sights, sounds, and smells because some people had the foresight to set aside such land for public use and appreciation. And that, furthermore, it would be protected from private developement which could destroy or diminish this habitat.

Showing a desire to savor this experience but tempered by respect, she picked only a couple of the most abundant flowers and pondered long over which one

pine cone to bring home. Heading downhill we came upon much Zigadenus venenosus and thus discussed the Indians' selective harvesting of the blue Camas so as to avoid the "death Camas".

The brilliant orange of California Poppies greeted our return to the roadside. Ann was fascinated by their cap-like sheaths which are pushed off by the developing petals. We found several sheaths partially pushed off and Ann delighted in helping them off early! We even found a stray Penstemon barrettiae growing in the roadside gravel, affording us the opportunity to examine it closely. I told her how special (endemic) this plant is.

The three hours we spent that evening cost so little yet produced such valuable results. Ann was stimulated by some first time encounters with nature's free and wonderful treasures. For me, seeing these familiar flower friends, while always delightful, was especially enhanced by introducing them to a new set of eyes. We both look forward to more such forays this summer.

How many times have you wanted company to go for a hike? Or had an empty backseat in your car? Some underprivileged child may genuinely benefit from your experience, attitude, and enthusiasm. You could make a difference on a one to one basis!

I'd be glad to talk about this further. Anyone with questions or comments to share, please contact me.

Susan Kofahl, Mid-Columbia Chapter

### WALKER CREEK WETLANDS

Summer is in full swing at Walker Creek Wetlands: birds are singing, flowers are blooming and the water still flows free. Soon, the fledglings will take wing, seeds will ripen on the sedges and small, silvery fish will slip over the beaver-dams, starting their long journey down the Nestucca to the sea. The cycle of seasons continues.

That Walker Creek Wetlands still sparkles in the sun is due to the efforts of you and me, members of Oregon's conservation community. In 1983, when plans were made to dam the Walker Creek Basin, it seemed a certainty that the dam would be built, that the wetlands would be lost forever. But, all across the state, people rose in opposition to the dam, and the preservation of the wetlands was formally endorsed by many environmental groups, including our own NPSO. "Friends of Walker Creek Wetlands" was founded and the long struggle began.

Continued on page 90

This is the last of a three part series on Oregon weeds. Part I, The Helliborine orchid in Oregon, was published in the April <u>Bulletin</u>; Part II, The Mystery Caryophyll, <u>Moenchia</u> erecta, was published in the June issue.

There have been some responses to those articles.

Our NPSO secretary, Florence Ebeling, tells me that she has a volunteer orchid in her garden that appears to be an Epipactis. When it blooms we will know if is Epipactis gigantee or E. helliborine.

Leighton Ho, stalwart member of the Emerald Chapter, reports that Moenchia is abundant at several sites around Eugene and was a mystery there until Part II was published. Botanists X, Y and Z "....all wrestled with it and came to three different determinations".

PART III, <u>Proboscidea lousisianica</u>, MULE-GRAB, DEVILS-CLAWS, or UNICORN PLANT

In the fall of 1972 I took my plant ecology class to Emigrant Lake, a reservoir just south of Ashland, to study the vegetation in the drawdown area around the shore. As the water gradually recedes over the summer, an interesting community of exotic plants appears in all phenological stages, from fruits at the upper shore to seedlings at the water's edge. The most common species is cocklebur, Xanthium strumarium L., which is often heavily infected by dodder, Cuscuta sp., a parasitic flowering plant. The dodder is so prevalent that it looks like masses of orange vermicelli clinging to the Xanthium. Other species include jimsonweed or thorn apple, Datura stramonium, with its long white, trumpetshaped flowers, spiny fruits and load of scopolamine. Turkey mullein, Eremocarpus setigerus, is also found there. Native Americans used this low, flat, hairy member of the Euphorbia family to stun fish by crushing it in streams and ponds.

While exploring the boulders on the back of the east dam we found several large sprawling plants with large cream-colored corollas that I did not immediately recognize, - which, as many of you know, is nothing new. A closer look revealed the beginning of something that I did recognize from pictures in plant morphology text books -two small sharp-pointed styles that were just beginning to curve upwards. It took only a little imagination to see that the flower was going to produce one of the plant kingdom's more fiercesome appearing fruits (see Fig. 1) with its strange mechanism for seed dispersal.

The plant appeared to be mule-grab (a.k.a. unicorn plant or devils-claws), Proboscidea lousisianica. The first common name is in reference to its seed dispersal mechanism. The shape and appearance of the mature fruit account for the other names.

This species was not found in Peck (1961) or Hitchcock and Cronquist (1972). We were, however, able to confirm our identification in Munz (1973), and in Ferris (1960). where it is illustrated. LaRea Dennis Johnston at Oregon State tells me that the species is known in various localites in southwest Oregon from Roseberg south through the Rogue Valley. The first specimens were collected about 1949. One of LaRea's tasks at OSU is the identification of weeds sent in by county agents. She thinks that the seed might have been included in bird seed (as hemp used to be) because, for a time, many of the mule-grab plants sent to her for identification were found growing under bird feeders.

Mule-grab is a member of the Martyniaceae, a small family of three genera found chiefly in the drier parts of tropical and sub-tropical Mexico and South America (Heywood 1985). Although it is not indicated on Heywood's map (pg. 252), this apecies is also found in the Southeastern United States. According to Ferris (1960) and Munz (1973) the apecies is something of a traveler, occurring in California as a naturalized weed (Munz 1973), usually in low moist ground in Sonoran Zones in the Sacramento Valley and in coastal valleys southward into Mexico and east.

The following account by McLean and Ivimey-Cook (1956) describes the seed dispersal mechanism of a similar Texas native that is an African weed, P. fragrans:

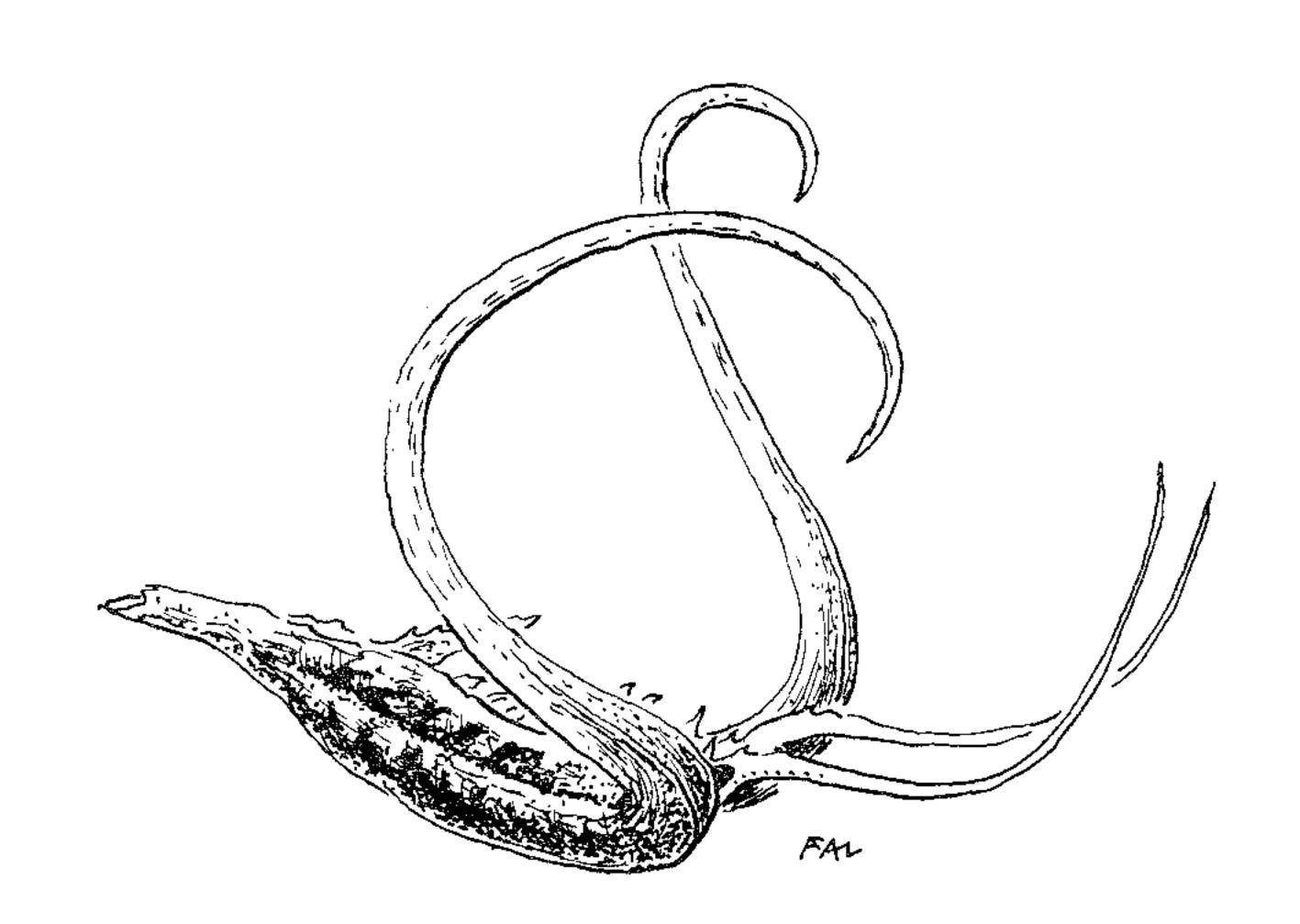


Fig. 1 Mule gras Frust. Natural Size.

The sharp points are lengthened to several inches, exceeding the length of the capsule, and curved and pointed like fishhooks. The fruit lies on the ground with these norms upwards and if an animal steps on it the fruit tips up and the horms class the fetlock. It is almost impossible for the animal to scrape it off and it works its way upward as the animal walks. Sheep on trek or deer may carry the fruits with them for long distances, cropping seeds as they go.

Apparently the fruits grab more than mules. I wonder what extinct Pleistocene mammal helped to disameninate the mammoth-grab? Probably not mammoths, since the plant seems to prefer warmer climes.

In <u>Proboscoidea louisianica</u> the fruit is fleshy at first. The fleshy outer layer eventually disappears, leaving the hard inner shell with its sharp, wicked, up-curved spines. When it is still fleshy, before the inner layer hardens, the fruits have been made into pickles (Rickett 1966-73a) or eaten as vegetables (Rickett 1966-73b).

Although this weed is not new to Oregon, it is worthy of note because of its unusual seed dissemination mechanism. It is spread by fetlocked mammals or, perhaps, by birdwatchers. If you find the plants you might want to collect the mature fruits to include in dried flower arangements or to frighten small children.

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Frank A. Lang Siskiyou Chapter

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JUNE MEETING

The Annual Meeting of NPSO as organized by the Corvallis Chapter was voted a total success. Members attending enjoyed a morning of informative reports and displays and an afternoon of field trips. Evening brought an excellent buffet dinner, meeting and program. Chapters reported on their activities. Julie Kierstead showed slides taken of Penstemon barrettiae at the site at Bonneville Dam. Recognition was given to those who have devoted time and energy in furthering the Society The evening was climaxed with an excellent program by Dr. Reid Moran.

The Board Meeting was held at the Town House Restaurant on Sunday morning. Budget matters of interest were: more posters and notecards need to be sold, grant money has been given for studies in Long Draw and Mickey Basin Research Natural Areas, \$200.00 not in the budget went to pay expenses for testimony for the preservation of the Columbia Gorge.

Julie Kierstead, Conservation Chair, submitted a written report since she was departing to attend hearings in Washington, D.C. In her report she commented that she had written letters concerning grasshopper spraying, wild horses and Research Natural Area management. The protection of Port Orford Cedar has not been resolved and the Jackson-Fraser Wetland where Lomatium bradshawii grows is being threatened by drainage by the owner. His action is being contested by NPSO and others. NPSO was well represented at the Desert Conference in April and Julie presented a program concerning R/E plants in Research Natural Areas. Protection of Penstemon barrettiae has been accomplished at the Bonneville site. Protests against the acceptance of the text "Get Oregonized" are still ongoing.

The Legislative Committee headed by Esther McEvoy is still at work and coming up against the attitude that there is not much interest in protecting plants. The Portland Garden Club has offered welcome support toward suitable legislation.

Jean Siddall, R/E Committee Chair, submitted a report since she too was departing for Washington, D.C. She is hoping for more good siting reports to result from the publication of plants on the watch list in the <u>Bulletins</u>. She thanks those who have made an effort to check these plants and also thanks the Society for their help in funding her trip to testify at the hearings on the Columbia Gorge Scenic Legislation.

Barbara Fox and her committee set up criteria for awarding grants for study of Desert Wilderness Study Areas. Grants have been made to Lois Kemp and Peter Zika for a field survey at Long Draw and to Carolyn Wright and David Gross for a preliminary plant list in Long Draw, Mickey Basin and Silver Creek areas.

Under Old Business came the announcement that new notecards and new brochures would soon be available. Carolyn Wright is still working with BLM on further protection of Mickey Basin and is hoping to have a work party on Labor Day weekend to do some fencing for protection against grazing. The possibility of a booth to promote education about native plants at the Oregon State Fair (1987) is being explored. Judy Armstrong and Mariana Bornholdt, both Friends of Walker Creek Wetlands, reported at the meeting what has been happening. They were pleased to announce that they were able to secure listing as R/E the

Sidalcea nelsoniana and that they would need financial assistance. Two hundred dollars was voted toward this effort.

Under New Business a site for the next annual meeting was discussed; Susan Kofahl was appointed to chair the nominating committee; fall board meeting will be held in Bend in October; approval was granted for NPSO to participate in the relocation of Penstemon barrettiae at Bonneville Dam. Sale of our membership list and advertising space in the Bulletin were discussed and will be studied further. Frank Lang and Veva Stansell have agreed to be interviewed on the subject of management of R/B plants in the Siskiyou National Forest. Stuart Garrett suggested that a brief synopsis of research papers might be of interest to the membership and could be published in the Bulletin. The Editor will welcome these.

Since this is the twenty-fifth year since the founding of NPSO, it was felt appropriate to do something special. Susan Kofahl brought to the meeting samples of pins that we could have made. The Board agreed to have some made using the trillium logo. These will be sold to interested members.

submitted by Florence Ebeling, Secretary

### Continued from page 87

The discovery of the rare <u>Sidalcea</u>
<u>nelsoniana</u> (Nelson's checkermallow) in
'84 "bought" time for the wetlands,
time for conservationists to insist
successfully that an Environmental
Impact Statement be prepared to weigh
the pros and cons of BLM approval of
the proposed dam. The EIS study is now
in progress.

In May '86, USFWS' Boise office accepted our petition to list the plant as an endangered species: Nelson's Checkermallow is now in the process of being officially declared an Endangered Species.

We have been successful, so far, in our efforts to save Walker Creek, but, frankly, we're worried!

We are worried because BLM is allowing the dam proponent, McMinnville Water & Light Department (MWLD), to select the contractor for the EIS, a contractor who might be as biased as the proponent wants them to be (as was the case in the '85 "study" of the checkermallow: BLM actually published the hired contractor's conclusions, conclusions that were in direct opposition to those of BLM's own professional botanists!).

We are worried because MWLD has retained an attorney (at a reported fee of \$50,000) to guide the dam proposal through all the loop-holes. The

attorney is a former Solicitor General of the BLM,

We are worried because MWLD has stated publicly that they are willing to spend a million dollars just to get the dam approved (it would cost at least 17 million more to build the dam and bring it "on line")!

That's why we're worried. That's why we are asking for your help. In spite of laws protecting wetlands and endangered species, laws that should prevent the damming of Walker Creek, the battle is not over!

We have recently learned that the plant study agreement between BLM and MWLD has been revised to include removal of 200 of the endangered plants from the wetlands this August! Part of the wetlands is owned by Willamette Industries, and it is from the private land that the plants will be dug. BLM says they can't (won't?) stop it. BUT WE MUST TRY! We must do all that we can to halt the removal of the endangered plants from the wetlands.

We urgently request your help! Our three year struggle to preserve Walker Creek Wetlands has not exhausted our energies, but it has depleted our financial resources. If Walker Creek Wetlands and Sidalcea nelsoniana is to be saved, we must act now! Please help us by sending a tax-deductable contribution to "Friends of Walker Creek Wetlands", P.O. Box 536, McMinnville, OR 97128.



STEVE H. OMINSKI

STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

NPSO Wildflower Poster . . . . . . . . Alan Curtis 2370 Douglas Drive, Eugene, OR, 97405;345-2571

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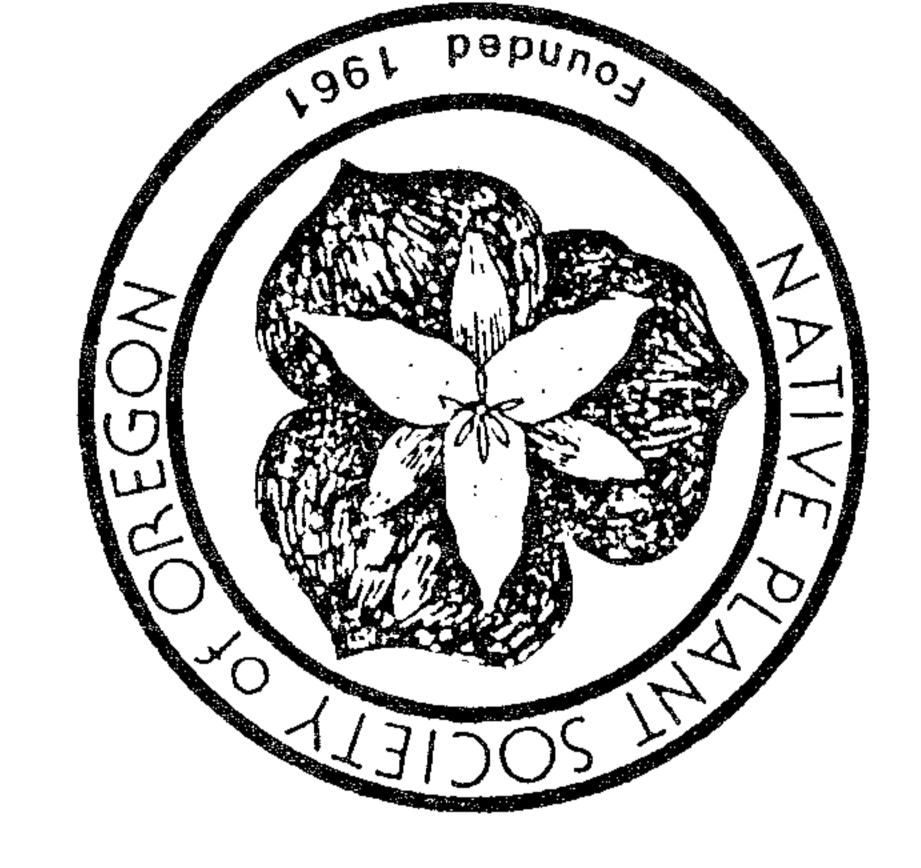
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