

Bulletin of the
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY of OREGON

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

Volume 20 No. 3

March 1987

ISSN 0884-5999

1987 The Year of the Oregon Endangered Species Act

CHAPTER NEWS

Blue Mountain

16 March, Mon.

Meeting, 7:30 pm. Room 130, Morrow Hall, Blue Mountain Community College. Tim Lillibo of the Oregon Natural Resources Council will give a presentation on HELL'S CANYON.

Corvallis

9 March, Mon.

Meeting, 7:30 pm. Room 205, Withycombe Hall, OSU Campus. Dr. Boone Kaufman, OSU Rangeland Resources Dept., will give a presentation on THE PEOPLE, VEGETATION AND FIRE IN THE VENEZUELEN AMAZON.

Emerald

9 March, Mon.

Meeting, 8:00 pm. Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard, Eugene. The program will be on ecosystem parameters potentially sensitive to air borne pollutants: a study in Olympic National Park by Gail Baker.

High Desert

For information, contact Stuart Garrett (382-2631). Field trips start in May on the 2nd.

Mid Columbia

4 March, Wed.

Meeting, 7:30 pm. Mosier School. ETHNOBOTANY presentation by Krista Thie will be featured.

7 March, Sat.

Field Trip: join the Portland Chapter for our 1st field trip in the Columbia Gorge. Meet at 9:30 am at the Hood River Inn parking lot.

18 March, Wed.

A Portland Botanical Gardens Tour. Sign up at the March 4th meeting or contact Susan Kofahl (478-3576) no later than March 15th.

21 March Sat.

"Meanderings" on the Tom McCall Rowena Nature Conservancy Preserve. More details at the March 4th meeting.

North Coast

For information, contact Roy Peters (842-9284).

Portland

7 March, Sat.

Field Trip: First of the year - EAST END OF THE COLUMBIA GORGE. Meet at 8:00 am at the K-Mart, NE 122nd and Sandy Blvd., south end of parking lot or meet the leader at the Hood River Inn at 9:30 am. Leader is Keith Chamberlain (478-3314).

10 March, Tues.

Meeting, 7:00 pm. First United Mthodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson, Portland. George Lewis will present "SCENES FROM GEORGE'S 97,000 SQUARE MILE FLOWER GARDEN".

- 14 March, Sat. Field Trip: MCCORD CREEK - MOSSES. This is a follow-up on the workshop on moss identification. Bring a hand lens. Meet at 9:00 am at the K-Mart, NE 122nd and Sandy Blvd., or at McCord Creek in the Columbia Gorge at 10:00 am. Leader is John Davis, 509-427-5811.
- 21 March, Sat. Field Trip: ROWENA PRESERVE. Meet at 8:00 am at the K-Mart, 122nd and Sandy. Leaders are Sara Barnum and Joyce Beeman (639-3353).
- 28 March, Sat. Field Trip: CATHERINE CREEK. Meet at 8:00 am at K-Mart, 122nd and Sandy. Leader is Louise Godfrey (223-4785).
- 4 April, Sat. Field Trip: MITCHELL POINT. Meet at 8:00 am at the K-Mart, 122nd and Sandy. Leader is Esther Kennedy (287-3091).
- Memorial Day Weekend Field Trip: SOUTHWESTERN OREGON. Details later, leader will be George Lewis.

Siskiyou

- 12 March, Thurs. The regular meeting has been cancelled. Instead we would like to encourage members to attend the slideshow/lecture program by Galen Rowell, photographer for National Geographic Magazine and author of numerous books. The presentation will feature spectacular slides of his adventures in Tibet, Nepal, China, Alaska and Africa and will include his climb of Mt. Everest. Tickets are \$4/general, \$2/SOSC students. Meeting time is 7:30 pm at the Student Union Arena, SOSC. For more information call 482-7151.

Willamette Valley

- 16 March, Mon. Meeting, 7:30 pm. First United Methodist Church, corner of SE Church and State Streets, Salem. (Use the Church St. entrance.) The program will be a slideshow WILDFLOWERS OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE by Nancy Russell of the Friends of the Columbia River Gorge. It will include habitats, blooming times, and information about early botanical explorers.

Wm. Cusick

For information, contact Rachel Sines (963-0674).

SIDALCEA NELSONIANA PROPOSED FOR THREATENED STATUS

The Bureau of Land Management and the US Fish and Wildlife Service have decided to proceed with the necessary documentation to support a proposed rule that would list Sidalcea nelsoniana as a threatened species throughout its range. The City of McMinnville's proposed Walker Creek water project is the single greatest threat to the continued survival of the species. The USF & W Service will publish notice of the proposed listing in the Federal Register soon. After that, the agency has 1 year to complete the gathering of data and public input.

There is still a lot to be done to protect the wetlands. The City of McMinnville intends to oppose the listing. Your letters to legislators are very important.

WASHINGTON STATE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

It has been suggested to this editor that NPSO members may be interested in becoming members of our sister organization, the Washington State Native Plant Society. They publish a quarterly informative newsletter. Their membership year is from March to March. If interested, write to Lee Ellis, State Treasurer, WNPS, 5231 NE 184th Street, Seattle, WA 98155. Dues are: Student/Retired \$6, Individual \$10, Family \$12.

1987 ANNUAL DESERT CONFERENCE - April 24 to 26

The annual Desert Conference will be held April 24, 25 and 26 at the Malheur Field Station south of Burns, Oregon. The theme for the conference is Desert Wilderness. This is the ninth time conservationists from Oregon, Idaho and Nevada have met for the annual event.

Friday will feature field trips to local Wilderness proposal areas. Saturday participants will hear presentations from natural resource experts and conservation leaders. A blend of natural history, land management and how-to presentations will provide variety. The conference will close by noon Sunday, leaving time for visiting, birding or soaking up more desert sun. Slide shows, banquet, wilderness proposal contest, birding, and a host of other Malheur opportunities are available.

Because of the isolated nature of the Malheur Field Station, all attendees must preregister. Room and board are provided at the Field Station. For further information and registration forms contact:

Desert Conference IX
PO Box 848
Bend, OR 97709
503-388-0089

Jean Davis Award

Plan to be on hand for the Saturday night banquet, May 9th, if nothing else. Members have personally tested the Multnomah Falls restaurant and are sure we'll have a good dinner. More important will be the brain nourishment provided by Gail Baker's presentation on monitoring sensitive ecosystem processes in the Olympics plus hearing about what is currently happening in the Gorge from a representative from the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area.

If you haven't sent in your registration blank, please do so as soon as possible. We don't have enough confirmations to ensure renting space at Menucha yet, but are proceeding on the assumption that we will.

There will be a few empty places for last minute (up to May 1st) reservations for the banquet but please send your room reservations and/or banquet reservations now to Virginia Diegel, 16415 N.W. Brugger Rd., Portland, Oregon 97229.

Note: Don't forget that the fees listed last month were based on your bringing your own bedding or sleeping bag. If you prefer linen provided, add \$6.00.

WANTED: APPLICANTS FOR JEAN DAVIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

We have available two scholarships this year since there were no applicants in 1986. Scholarships are available to students in Oregon Colleges, planning their major study in plant systematics or plant ecology. The award amount is \$1000 to anyone who has or will be completing at least two years of satisfactory college work by July 1st of the year of application. Applications must be in by April 1, and selection will be made May 1. Complete rules and applications are available from Mary Falconer, 1920 Engel Ave. NW, Salem, OR 97304, or from most Financial Aid Departments at Oregon Colleges.

Donations to the scholarship fund are gratefully accepted from the general membership (which is easily done at the time of renewal of your NPSO membership or at any such time as you wish). These can also be mailed to Mary Falconer. If you wish to make a donation in memory or as a gift, please indicate such and we will send out a note to acknowledge receipt to the person or family honored.

* * * * *

« « VOTE FOR STATE OFFICERS - BALLOT ENCLOSED » »

* * * * *

BLM WILDLAND STUDY AVAILABLE

On January 23rd the Bureau of Land Management issued their Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for BLM Wilderness Study Areas in the state of Oregon. The Study will be available for public comment until April 24th. Public hearings will be held at the times and places indicated below.

The Supplement consists of two volumes which will supplement the four volume Draft EIS issued in April of 1986. BLM has completely rewritten the Statewide document of the Draft. The second document includes six new and a couple of rewritten appendices and changes for the majority of the Wilderness Study Areas in Oregon. The additions bring the combined total of WSAs and acres studied in the DEIS and Supplement to 85 WSAs and 2,648,214 acres.

The new study adds nearly 140,000 acres to the Alvord Desert unit. An appeal has resulted in a new 100,000 acre area - Lookout Butte - on our southeast border. Important botanical values in Leslie Gulch, new Federal land on Steens Mountain, and key wildlife habitat in several areas are major concerns.

The new documents will be most helpful if you have the original Draft EIS. To obtain both the Draft and Supplement write to: Wilderness Studies, BLM, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208; Jerry Magee, 503-231-6256.

The public is urged to provide input on any aspect of the BLM wilderness study.

The BLM has decided to hold hearings on the study at the following places and times:

- March 10 Vale BLM District Office Conference Room.
100 Oregon St., Vale 7-9 pm.
- March 11 Harney Co. Courthouse. 450 Buena Vista,
Burns, 7-9 pm.
- March 12 Lakeview BLM District Conference Room.
1000 9th St. South, Lakeview 7-9 pm.
- March 16 Catholic Parish Hall. 200 East 1st St.
Prineville 7-9 pm.
- March 17 Hearing Room Auditorium, Second Floor.
1120 SW 5th Ave., Portland 2-5, 7-9 pm.
- March 18 Concord Room, Red Lion Motor Inn
3280 Gateway, Springfield 7-9 pm.
- March 19 Medford BLM District, Oregon Room
3040 Biddle Rd., Medford 7-9 pm.

Please attend if you can.

President's Letter:

**OUR 1987 LEGISLATIVE EFFORT:
THE NOTECARD CONNECTION!**

Dear Fellow NPSOers,

I'm sorry I did not write in February, but I was swamped with work. Specifically, I am teaching botany at Lane Community College, working as the Administrative Assistant for the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, sitting on the state Natural Heritage Advisory Council, acting as your President, working on our Legislative effort, working on my own research on hawthorns, and taking care of our home and family. All big jobs, and with some, your help is needed.

This month I want to discuss two problems that face our Society in 1987. One problem is very large and the other is small, but it may be possible for us to solve both at the same time! The large problem is, of course, to launch an effective program of education of our state legislators in order to PASS OUR ENDANGERED SPECIES BILL THIS YEAR. The small problem is that we have 300 packs of NPSO notecards that need to be sold this spring before I will authorize a new printing with new designs, textures, and colors.

Perhaps most readers are way ahead of me and can already see how the solutions to the problems are related! I have a dream (thank you for a fine quote, MLK) of our distinctive yellow, blue, and green cards STACKING UP ON THE DESKS OF OREGON LEGISLATORS THIS SESSION. Can't you see them there, piles and piles of them -- so recognizable -- so effective? Each one with a personal message about some rare plant that needs to be saved.

Can't you see the Governor and the Legislators beginning to recognize them? Their aides and secretaries bringing in more each day! They think to themselves: "There's a group out there called the Native Plant Society of Oregon that really cares about the rare plants of our state." We are about 600 strong, not a huge society, but if everyone writes 5 cards this spring, that's 3

thousand cards on desks in Salem!

Anyhow, I don't need to belabor the point. With only 300 packs to go, and with our low, low price of only \$2.50 a pack, we can easily sell the remaining packs in the next month or so if ONLY HALF OUR MEMBERS purchase a pack! And probably many of you, like me, intend to buy 2 or 3 packs for this legislative session.

Chapter Presidents (or Treasurers), please take stock today. Do you have enough cards to sell in the near future? Please call George Lewis at 292-0415 and ORDER MORE CARDS TODAY if you are running low. Members, please ask your chapter officers for cards. Call them by phone if you don't attend meetings.

Chapter Presidents, again, please do what Charlene Holzwarth tells me the Sierra Club chapters do: Distribute a card to each member at the beginning of each chapter meeting. Write the names and addresses of local legislators on the blackboard; suggest items that could be mentioned such as meadowfoam or new medicines; pass out some stamps; and give a few minutes for the letters to be written. They need not be long, but they should be "from the heart."

Being your president during this legislative year is exciting, but it is also a lot of work. Worrying about non sales of notecards is one responsibility that could be eliminated very quickly if all chapters and members would get the patriotic spirit and start a FLOOD OF NPSO NOTECARDS HEADING TOWARD SALEM THIS SPRING!

Bless you all for your help and Flowers Forever!

Rhoda Love

**WE NEED YOUR HELP
AGAIN!
2,000 SCHOOL CHILDREN
COMING TO THE
MT. PISGAH ARBORETUM
IN MAY!
6TH YEAR OF OUR FREE
OUTDOOR PROGRAM
TRAIL GUIDES NEEDED
EACH WEEKDAY MORNING
IN MAY
FREE TRAINING SESSIONS:
MARCH 10 AND 11
PLEASE CALL: 747-3817**

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| CORVALLIS
Thomas Kaye
Roger & Carol Quick
Kristen Terry | BLUE MOUNTAIN
Chris Matherly |
| EMERALD
Alan Dickman | PORTLAND
Jean Dodier
Eric Grimm
William Peterson
Andrew Robinson |
| HIGH DESERT
Lucile Houseley
David Lichter
Edward Mierjeski | SISKIYOU
Kaye Downey
Barbara Ertter
Don Sellers |
| MID COLUMBIA
Jeanne Hillis
Mrs. B.J. Hoffman | WILLAMETTE VALLEY
Mark Boyll |

Legislative Notes

ENDANGERED SPECIES AND HABITAT CONSERVAION

Our Endangered Species Bill is beginning its journey through the legislative process now. Our bill will be introduced as a committee bill by Bill Bradbury on February 16, in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee in the Senate. On February 17th it will be assigned a number. Once the bill is introduced it will be 4 to 6 weeks until our hearings before the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. That places our hearings at the end of March or beginning of April. These hearings are very vital to the success of our bill. We welcome any suggestions for expert testimony, especially from other individuals outside our conservation groups. Contact me if you know of any good speakers for our cause.

One major change was made in our bill before the final draft. We decided to delete all appropriations in our bill. The reason behind this is that with the appropriations attached to the bill, certain death was almost guaranteed in referral to Ways and Means Committee. So, we are planning on getting the statutes first and then going back for appropriations at a later session.

A number of our posters have been handed out to friendly legislators. The posters have been very favorably received by all recipients. Start to contact your representatives, keep them informed and educated on the importance of our bill! Remember, we are responsible for what will be here in Oregon for future generations to benefit from and to enjoy. Contact your representatives now.

In the January issue of this Bulletin our State President gave all our members background information about Rare Plant Legislation. These are all important points that we should emphasize to our political representatives. I would also like to offer some references for biological facts and figures that support species and habitat conservation. These articles discuss some of the fundamental biological reasons for promoting conservation of the natural diversity and abundance of species. They are excellent sources from which to cull information to include in letters or just for your own edification.

Ehrlich, P. and H. Mooney. 1983. Extinction, Substitution and Ecosystem Services. *BioScience* 33:248-254.

Schreiner, K. and C. Ruhr. 1974. Progress in saving endangered species. *Trans. 39th N. Amer. Wildlife and Nat. Resor. Conference. Wildlife Mgt. Inst.*

Vitousek, P., P. Ehrlich, A. Ehrlich and P. Matson. 1986. Human appropriation of the products of photosynthesis. *BioScience* 36:368-373.

Issues of Journals devoted to species extinction include:

Wild Oregon: Journal of the Oregon Natural Resource Council. Fall 1986

The Nature Conservancy News. 1983. Vol. 33.

Myers, N. By saving wild species, we may be saving ourselves.

Gail A. Baker
Emerald Chapter
January 1987

SIUSLAW COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED TO MARCH 20

The Siuslaw National Forest draft forest plan was released November 15 and the comment period has now been extended past February 15 to March 15 thanks to Liz Frenkel of the Sierra Club and the Governor. A few members of the Corvallis Chapter of the NPSO are working on a letter about the plan. Angie Evenden, Dan Luoma and I have begun to work on a response to the proposed alternatives. Please contact any of us if you wish to respond.

*
* OREGON ENDANGERED SPECIES BILL HAS A NUMBER *
*
* The Bill's number is 533. NPSO members who would *
* like a copy of the Bill should request it through *
* their legislator (first copies are free). When *
* you write, please urge your legislator to support *
* our Bill, Senate Bill 533. *
* *

Esther Gruber McEvoy
State Legislative Chair

The NPSO board met in Corvallis on January tenth. The meeting was presided over by President Rhoda Love. She stressed the importance of chapter representatives attending these meetings so that information could be brought to members quickly. Chapters represented at the meeting were, Corvallis, Emerald, Mid Columbia, Portland, Siskiyou, Willamette and Wm Cusick.

Highlights of the chapter reports are: Corvallis has focused their interest on old growth forests. Emerald provided registration fees for 3 members to attend 3 different symposiums and report back. They are watching a situation where a population of Lomatium bradshawii may be encroached upon and are participating in the development of an educational program for the new Big River Old Growth Preserve.

Both Mid Columbia and Portland will be participating in the program to rid the McCall Rowena Preserve of Knapweed and to plant Penstemon barrettiae on the grounds of Bonneville Dam. Mid Columbia, Portland and Willamette are planning wildflower shows. The Leach Garden has graciously provided Portland Chapter with library space.

Siskiyou Chapter is heading south to the California desert for its first field trip. They brought the good news that the BLM had given protection to Eight Dollar Mountain and that the site at Emigrant Lake where the Southern Oregon Buttercup grows will probably not be developed commercially due to protests.

Wm. Cusick Chapter is working diligently towards further protection for Hells Canyon and have been checking on endemic species that grow in the canyon.

Mary Falconer, membership chairperson, reported that membership has been lagging, however members have been generous in contributing to the R/E and scholarship fund. The OSU and Uof O's request for a complete set of our NPSO Bulletins has not been met.

Our Editor is again calling for more material. It was suggested that field trip reports be encouraged for some members look forward to reading them.

Conservation was reported upon by Julie Kierstead. A new director is reorganizing the state BLM office and we need to remind him we would like more botanists hired. The Berry Garden has produced seedlings of Stephanomeria malheurensis that will be used to replant their natural habitat in April. The original population was destroyed by fire.

Julie has asked for a person knowledgeable in forest matters to help the Conservation Committee with forest conservation issues.

Legislative Chairperson, Esther McEvoy announced that the Endangered Species Act that she and her committee have worked for so long and hard is now ready for a number

and introduction into the legislature. Julie Kierstead has ready two slide shows that will be used to promote the act. More about what the membership can do to help toward getting this legislation passed will be in the Bulletin.

Jean Siddall reviewed last year's work toward protection of R/E species and stressed that the chapters need to complete their search for plants and send in their reports. Checking of sites is an important role for NPSO to play in the protection of R/E species. Blooming time of these plants was published in the three spring issues of the 1986 Bulletin.

While Barbara Fox was unable to attend, the meeting she reported that the two NPSO grants in 1986 did a lot of good. The program will continue.

Jim Brown and Rick George, members of the Wm. Cusick Chapter, reported on conservation efforts related to Hell's Canyon. He states that this area is a botanical treasure. The chapter has identified 28 endemic species and there is evidence that the Grizzly Bear is not extinct on the Idaho side. Damage to watershed and habitat are considerable since logging began in 1975. Timber interests and conservation groups are polarized, with loggers wanting to save their jobs and conservationists wanting to protect the canyon. The Grande Ronde Resource Council is going to sponsor a symposium that will involve both interests and try to resolve the situation.

The nominating committee reported a complete slate of officers for the coming election.

Carolyn Wright has more site work to do before she can write a complete report on Mickey Basin.

The Board decided it was not feasible to have a booth at the State Fair in 1987.

Annual meeting plans are underway and the Bulletin will have complete information.

Frank Lang has developed guidelines for advertising and sale of membership list. The Bulletin will publish this.

A chairperson is needed to take the responsibility of answering correspondence concerning the growing of native plants. A volunteer would be welcome.

The budget committee made a big effort to trim the budget so that the depleted savings (our safety net) could be built up again.

The Cresco Nursery in Holland has asked NPSO for help in securing salvaged Darlingtonia californica for propagation. He has secured the proper collection permits and is willing to fly to the area to collect salvaged plants. The Board agreed to help him with the collection as long as the collections were restricted to areas where destruction could not be avoided.

Florence Ebeling, Sec.

I. CHAPTER GUIDELINES

- 1) 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 watchdog 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 judgment 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 nondestructive modes of learning and enjoyment: photography, artwork, scientific description, aesthetic 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 the natural habitat.
- 3) 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 their 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 judgment 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. 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 guidelines.
- 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 materials after the show by donating them to schools, libraries, or other constructive uses.

THE FIRST AND LAST FLOWERS OF 1986

The first flowers we saw in 1986 were on February 1. We had taken a walk that Saturday afternoon across the wheat and cattle ranch we live on 30 miles due east of Mt. Hood. We're at an elevation of 2800 feet and that day, although sunny, the air was brisk. We had crossed over to our neighbor's place to the west and were walking through the biscuit-scabland that separates the grain fields from each other when we saw it--our first flower of the year. It was a small white-flowered umbel, either a Lomatium or an Orogenia. We didn't know what it was because they are difficult to identify without the fruit. We were on a south facing slope with a few patches of snow around, and saw that a few Sisyrinchiums were also coming up. Just across the draw on the shadier north slopes and in the bottom there was still a good accumulation of snow, the remnants of a very snowy and cold November and December. We made some comment about how early it was to be seeing flowers, and then continued on.

The last flowers we saw in 1986 were not in September or October as we might have thought if we had even been thinking "these are the last flowers we'll be seeing this year", but, they were in December. They weren't holdovers from the fall either, they were new blooms. New green leaves, buds, and flowers.

The first of our last flowers was the same little white umbel. It was December 1 and we had walked up on the ridge behind the house to look down into the Deschutes River canyon and beyond. Coming back along the top of the ridge we saw it in a bare spot in the patchy blanket of November's snow. This time we remarked about how some plants can go through their yearly cycles in extreme weather conditions and figured this plant would stay green under the snow that we expected to come--it's alternative to summer heat and drought.

On December 12, we were at The Nature Conservancy Lawrence Memorial Grassland Preserve in southern Wasco County. The elevation there is about 3300 feet. It was another sunny but brisk day. We walked around the preserve a bit and saw signs of several plants greening up: Lithophragma, Lomatium minus, and several grasses. Getting a head start on spring we thought.

On our way home we stopped a couple of miles down the road and took a quick walk through a juniper woodland. Coming back up an old, stony road we suddenly realised that the scattering of white specks at our feet were not tiny hailstones but the buds of Phlox hoodii. And not only were there buds, but flowers as well. So here was another early plant, in bloom at an unexpected time.

And then finally, on Christmas Day, on another one of our walks on the ridge behind the house, we came across a patch of Phlox in bloom. It was a gray, overcast day, and the early snows still lingered, but not much. By this time we were actually looking for something in bloom, so, while it was still a surprise to see flowers, it wasn't as big a surprise as it could have been. Besides, it was Christmas, and everyone knows that Christmas is full of surprises.

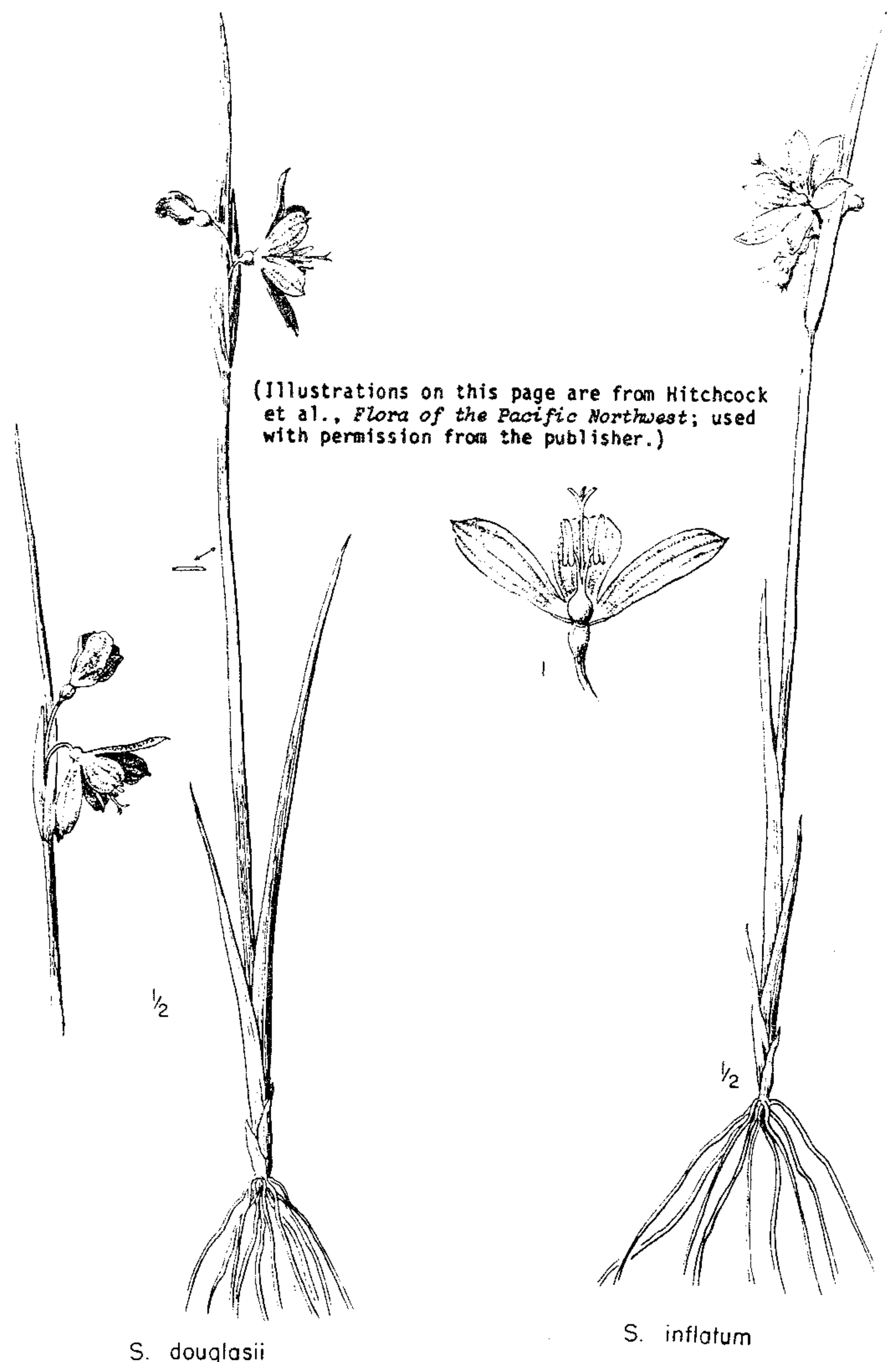
Well, we've already seen our first flowers of 1987. It was on about the third or fourth of January up on the ridge behind the house. Here and there were little green leaves and white flowers of the mystery umbel. We had looked for the one we were so surprised by back on December 1, but it was covered by snow. The top of the ridge was warmer and we left our tracks in the mud in a few places--no snow here. There weren't a lot of plants in bloom, but enough to say "These are the first of the year". We noticed the deer had found them, too, and had nibbled on the larger leaves.

Now, at the end of January, it is snowing outside. We still haven't had a big snowstorm this winter, it's been pretty dry. But as we watch it snow, we remember what waits underneath this white blanket. We've also learned something this winter. We've always known some plants were early bloomers, but now we know just how early that can be.

So, just because the weather turns cold, and the leaves drop off the trees, or it snows, or whatever happens around where you live to herald the coming of winter, keep your eyes open for those earliest of bloomers--what will they be? If we track that little white umbel until it fruits, then we'll really know what our first flowers of 1986 (and 1987) were and we'll let you know, too.

David C. Gross

Mid Columbia Chapter



HELLS CANYON: TREE FARM OR NATIONAL TREASURE

The deepest gorge on Earth, Hells Canyon, lies along the extreme northeast corner of Oregon, where the Snake River cuts between Idaho and Oregon. The rugged basalt side canyons lead down into the basement rocks at the bottom of Hells Canyon, exposing the geologic record for nearly 225 million years. The Hells Canyon region was the first land in Oregon to rise above the Pacific Ocean as the continent extended westward to its present-day position.

Today the area is populated with herds of elk, deer, bighorn sheep. Grizzly bears have been sighted in the remote regions of Hells Canyon, and twenty-seven species of native plants are endemic to the canyon. However, to date we have conducted only cursory studies of the plant and animal life in the canyon, and much more needs to be done.

Time may not be on our side. Since legislation was passed in 1975 to designate the region as a National Recreation Area, logging has accelerated, roadbuilding has decimated much of the habitat, and the pressures for resource exploitation have increased.

On August 22, 1986, Senators Hatfield and Packwood conducted a field hearing on a proposal by Senator Packwood to add additional wilderness acreage to the NRA. Timber interests organized under the banner of SOS (Save Our Snake) and converged on the hearings with more than 100 log trucks parading through the main street of La Grande. Testimony was inconclusive on the reliance of local sawmills on Hells Canyon timber. But both Senators did decide that local residents needed to achieve a consensus on the issue before it would be considered again.

Local conservationists attempted to establish a dialogue with the timber interests but were quickly disillusioned when loggers leaked to the newspapers their proposal to build a road through the Eagle Cap Wilderness Area to Hells Canyon, so that motorists "might use it".

Realizing the need for more rational suggestions, a local conservation organization, The Grande Ronde Resources Council (GRRC), participated in Governor Goldschmidt's Team Oregon process of defining regional economic development priorities and successfully promoted the Hells Canyon issue to the top of the long term priority list. Locally elected officials, realizing the need to resolve the issue, are presently willing to consider management options that will contribute to the regional economy and protect the unique character of Hells Canyon.

At the last board meeting of the NPSO, I presented the GRRC idea of a spring symposium on the future of Hells Canyon to be held in La Grande. Management options ranging from National Park designation to National Preserve status or continued National Recreation management alternatives will be presented. The purpose is to educate all Oregonians on the current status of management and the options available for saving the deepest gorge on earth.

At the suggestion of the NPSO board I have included the address of the Grande Ronde Resource Council if you would like additional information and/or wish to contribute money to help the local conservationists underwrite the cost of the symposium.

We hope to invite National Park Service representatives to present their ideas on managing the area, and hopefully Cecil Andrus, current Governor of Idaho and former Secretary of the Interior and father of the National Preserve movement, will share his ideas on managing the area.

We look forward to lots of support from NPSO members all over Oregon and invite everyone to attend the symposium. The date is to be announced by Feb. 1st.

Jim Brown
Executive Director
Grande Ronde Resource Council
P.O.Box 2968
La Grande, OR 97850



ALERT EMERALD CHAPTER MEMBERS Officers Sought

The Eugene Chapter of NPSO has been operating without a Vice-President for over 2 years and our Treasurer's term of office has ended. A maximum term of 2 consecutive years is stipulated in the By-Laws.

In order to keep our Chapter going at its current pace we need to fill those 2 positions as soon as possible. Both jobs are important to Chapter and State activities and require just a moderate amount of time and effort.

The monthly meetings in Eugene attract 20 to 50 people and officers derive a real sense of accomplishment in serving the environmentally interested community in the area.

**WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT TO CONTINUE.
PLEASE JUMP IN!!**

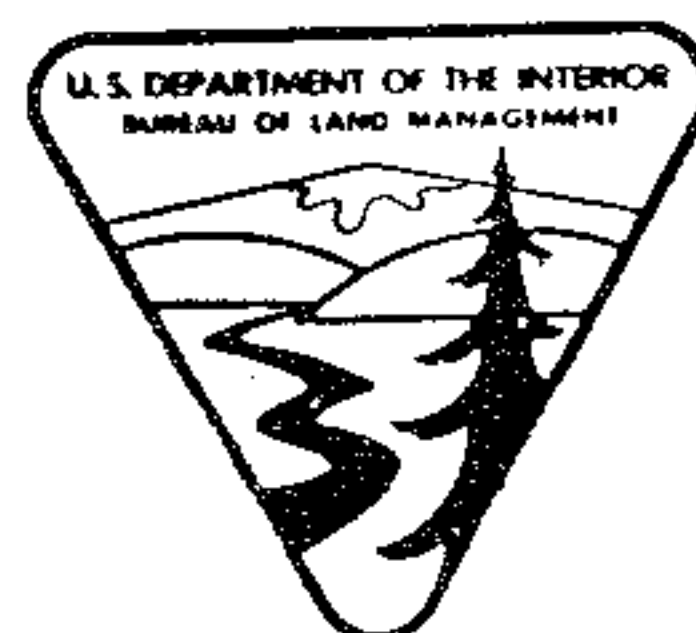
Many, many thanks to our out-going Treasurer, Evelyn Everett, for handling the position with efficiency and responsibility.

Hopefully I have inspired all our Emerald Chapter members. Give me a call right now.

Best regards,
Gail A. Baker 344-0312
President, Emerald Chapter



**Get IN TOUCH WITH NATURE
at the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum**



Sign up now for the first two in a monthly series of natural science workshops at the Arboretum. Each all day session will cover a different topic, from Animal Signs to Wildflower Identification. Aimed at adults with an interest in natural science, the program teaches through readings and discussion, field study, and, where appropriate, preparation of specimens for collection.

Students in the Animal Sign session, for instance, will study a deer trail and riverbank tracks and learn to make plaster casts from tracks in the field.

Workshops will be held on the second Saturday of each month, from 9am to 2pm with a break for lunch. Enrollment will be limited to 15 participants per session. For more information, call Dave Stone at 683-6127.



The following letter was received from the Office of the Burns District Manager of the BLM.

"This Land is Your Land" . . . BLM uses this philosophy as the basis of its "Take Pride in America" program. We know NPSO is proud of the public lands and are pleased that you take the opportunity to visit them. Your botanical observations and notations are of interest to the area land manager.

BLM welcomes interaction with NPSO members. NPSO'ers probably spend a fair amount of time each year botanizing on BLM land, and may visit places that BLM botanists haven't concentrated on. We would appreciate receiving information you collect such as general species lists, habitat descriptions of particular areas you visit, and sensitive species information. Information on sensitive plant habitats and populations and maps of their locations are especially useful for land management of federal or state sensitive species occurring on public land.

Sensitive species lists for Eastern Oregon may be obtained from the botany coordinators of the BLM District Offices in Burns, Lakeview, Prineville and Vale or from Cheryl McCaffrey, Zone Botanist, located at the Burns District Office (74 S. Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720). Likewise, information on plants occurring on the land of these districts may be provided to the district botany coordinator or to the Zone Botanist who will provide the data to the respective district.

IN TOUCH WITH NATURE

- WORKSHOP REGISTRATION -

Please register me for the following workshop(s):

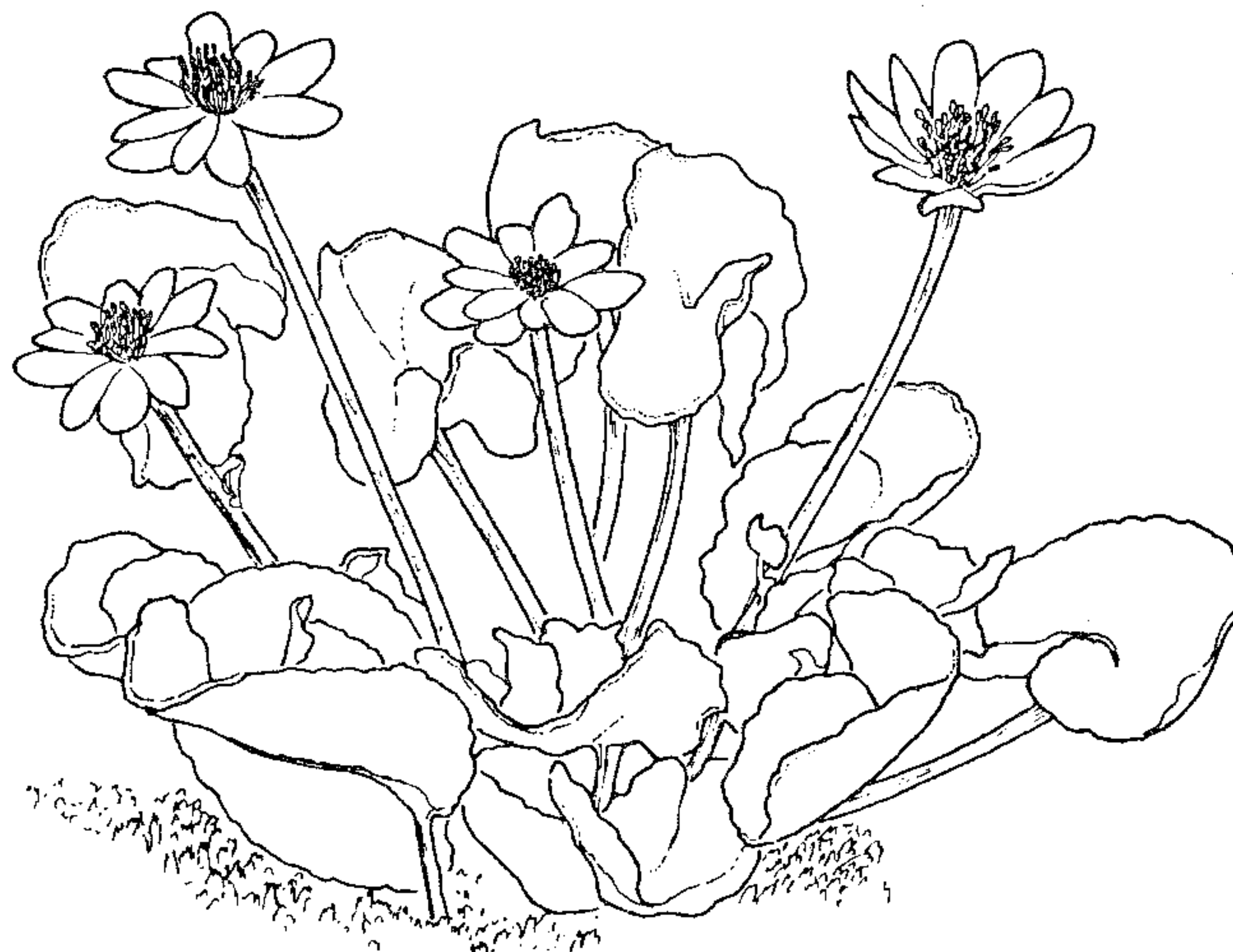
Topic	Date	Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Signs	March 14, 1987	\$ 5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Photography	April 11, 1987	5.00

(\$1 per workshop discount for Arboretum members) Total enclosed _____

Make check payable to: Friends of the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
Send to: Workshop 85999 Lorane Hwy Eugene, OR 97405

Name _____ Phone: day _____

Address _____ eve _____



STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

NPSO Wildflower Poster & Pins Susan Kofahl
P.O. Box 151, Mosier, OR, 97040; 478-3576

Notecards George Lewis
8230 SW Cashmur Lane, Portland, OR, 97225; 292-0415

T-Shirts Evelyn Everett
4135 Alder St., Eugene, OR, 97405; 345-1746

STATE OFFICERS

President Rhoda Love
 393 Ful Vue Drive, Eugene, OR, 97405; 345-6241
 Vice President Susan Kofahl
 P.O. Box 151, Mosier, OR, 97040; 478-3576
 Secretary Florence Ebeling
 7725 SW 82nd Ave., Portland, OR, 97223; 244-4122
 Treasurer Marjorie Ettinger
 63820 Quail Haven, Bend, OR, 97701; 382-2255
 Directors Don Eastman, Julie Kierstead, Dan Luoma
 Carolyn Wright, Don Barr, Barbara Fox
 R/E Chair Jean Siddall
 535 Atwater Rd., Lake Oswego, OR, 97034; 636-4633
 Conservation Chair Julie Kierstead
 11505 SW Summerville, Portland, OR, 97219; 636-4112
 Legislative Chair Esther McEvoy
 3290 SW Willamette, Corvallis, OR, 97333; 754-0893
 Desert Wilderness Coordinator Julie Kierstead
 11505 SW Summerville, Portland, OR, 97219; 636-4112

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Blue Mountain (NE Oregon) Bruce Barnes
 731 NW 5th, Pendleton, OR, 97801; 276-5547
 Corvallis Angie Evenden
 PO Box 1838, Corvallis, OR, 97339; 757-2806
 Emerald (Eugene area) Gail Baker
 2424 Harris St., Eugene, OR, 97405;
 High Desert (Bend area) Joyce Bork
 1600 NW Quincy, Bend, OR, 97701; 388-4394
 Mid-Columbia Keith Chamberlain
 Box 151, Mosier, OR, 97040; 478-3314
 North Coast Roy Peters
 842-9284
 Portland Herb Armentrout
 20060 SE Hwy 224, Clackamas, OR, 97015; 658-2751
 Siskiyou (SW Oregon) Ron Nitsos
 Biology Dept SOSC, Ashland, OR, 97520; 482-6341
 Willamette Valley (Salem area) Susan Kephart
 Biology/Willamette Univ, Salem, OR, 97301; 370-6481/371-7161
 Wm. Cusick (LaGrande area) Rachel Sines
 504 C Ave., LaGrande, OR, 97850; 963-0674

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Chair Mary Falconer
 1920 Engel Ave. NW, Salem, OR, 97304; 585-9419
 Membership in the Native Plant Society of Oregon is open
 to all. Membership applications & changes of address
 (including old address & zip code) should be sent to the
 membership chair.

BULLETIN

Editor Jan Anderson
 1960 Lovejoy #2, Portland, OR, 97209; 248-9242

The NPSO Bulletin is published monthly. Copy is due by
 the 10th of the month & should be sent to the editor.
 News, articles, photos, drawings, & non-copyrighted
 materials are welcomed.

GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

The Bulletin is not typeset; therefore typed,
 camera-ready copy is much appreciated. But
 no submission will be rejected because it is
 not typed. Please proofread & check facts.

DEADLINE: 10th of each month

FORMAT: Copy should be typed in 4 1/4 inch wide
 columns, of any length. Author's name & chap-
 ter affiliation (or other organization) are
 typed at the end of the article. There is no
 standard paragraph treatment; one of these
 is suggested:

* for long articles, double space between
 paragraphs, but do not indent the first
 word of the paragraph

* for short articles or short paragraphs,
 when double spacing looks odd, indent
 the first word of the paragraph instead

Type your own headline, centered, all caps.
 In case of special formats, e.g. plant keys,
 you are free to choose the layout.

CREDITS: For each submission, provide

* title

* author--specify whether byline is desired
 for news items

* instructions as to whether item is to be
 used in entirety or excerpted at editor's
 discretion

* source & date if item is not original

ILLUSTRATIONS: black & white prints, ink
 drawings, woodcuts, halftones, et al. We
 welcome small doodles as well as larger
 efforts. Please give source & date, if not
 original.

SCIENTIFIC NAMES should follow Hitchcock &
 Cronquist's Flora of the Pacific Northwest
 where possible. Use of both scientific &
 common names is encouraged. Genus & species
 names are underlined or italicized.

RETURN OF ORIGINALS: Manuscripts & illustra-
 tions will not be returned unless it is
 requested.

The Bulletin is published as a service to
 NPSO members & the public. Your suggestions
 & comments are always welcome.

#

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

CHAPTER (if known) _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

IS THIS A CHANGE OF ADDRESS? If so please
 write your OLD ADDRESS:

 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

* DUES include monthly news bulletin. Full membership runs from January through December. Quarter member-
 ship runs from September through December.

() NEW () QUARTER MEMBERSHIP (\$2.50) () RENEWAL

() Student \$ 7.50 () Sustaining \$ 25.00

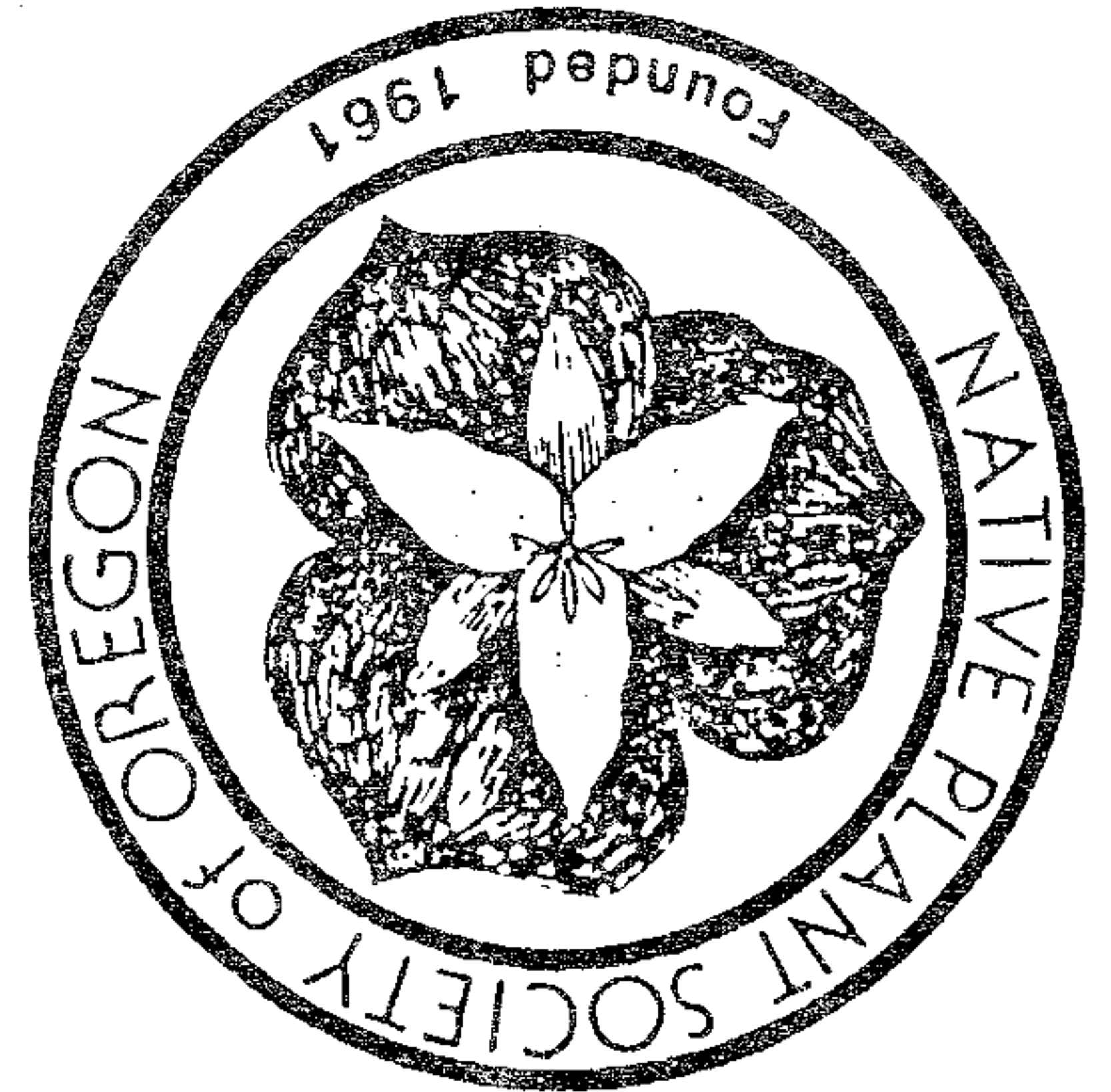
() Regular 10.00 () Patron 100.00

() Family membership 15.00 () Life member 500.00

*CONTRIBUTIONS: Jean Davis Memorial Award Fund . . . \$ _____
 Rare and Endangered Plant Fund . . . \$ _____

*All contributions to the Native Plant Society of Oregon, a non-profit organization, are tax deductible.
 Please make checks for dues & contributions payable to NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON. Send completed form
 & full remittance to: MARY FALCONER, NPSO MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, 1920 Engel Ave. NW, Salem, OR 97304.

TIME DATED MAIL



Native Plant Society of Oregon
1960 NW Lovejoy #2
Portland, OR 97209

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
Portland, Oregon
Permit #2432

IN THIS ISSUE

References on Endangered Species & Habitat Conservation 25
by Gail Baker

A Brief of the NPSO January Board Meeting 26

NPSO Guidelines and Ethical Code 27

The First and Last Flowers of 1986 28
by David Gross

Hell's Canyon Conflicts 29
by Jim Brown

BLM Request for NPSO Information on Plants on BLM Land 30