



# *Bulletin* of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

Dedicated to the enjoyment, conservation, and study  
of Oregon's native vegetation

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## State News

April 1, Sat.

**State Board Meeting:** 10 A.M. Coos Bay, at Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC). Directions: Southbound on 100 cross McCullough Bridge into North Bend, get in right lane, turn right at 2nd light (Virginia St.) left at 1st light after mall (at 7-Eleven) onto Broadway, get in right lane which will turn right at the Sizzler (sweeping curve) onto Newmark Blvd., turn into SWOCC campus across from Walmart and follow NPSO signs. Northbound on 101, go through Coos Bay, turn left at Ming Palace Restaurant onto Newmark Blvd., go about 2 mi. (through 4 lights) turn right at SWOCC entrance, as above. Possible field trip to Shore Acres. For more information call Bruce Rittenhouse, 756-0100 (w) or 888-9328 (h).

June 16 - 18

Fri. - Sun.

**Annual Meeting:** Hosted by the Portland Chapter, at Brightwood, near Mt. Hood. Dr. Linda Ann Vorobik, NPSO member for many years, formerly editor of the Bulletin and chief illustrator of The Jepson Manual, will be the speaker at the Saturday evening banquet. Her topic will be "Assembling a state flora -- challenges of producing The Jepson Manual." Details and registration form in the March Bulletin.

## Chapter News

### Blue Mountain

April 3, Mon.

**Meeting:** 7 P.M. Small Business Development Center, SE 1st & Dorian, Pendleton. Berta Youtie of The Nature Conservancy will show slides of her trip to Africa.

April 23, Sun.

**Field Trip:** Jerry Baker will lead to the Thornhollow area along the Umatilla River. Meet at the NE corner of Safeway parking lot at 9 A.M.

April 29, Sat.

**Field Trip:** Marilyn Leuallen will show us some interesting areas on her property on Cabbage Hill. Meet at NE corner of Safeway parking lot at 9 A.M.

May 1, Mon.

**Meeting:** 7 P.M. Small Business Development Center, SE 1st & Dorian, Pendleton. Bruce Barnes will demonstrate the computer polyclave expert system plant key he developed for the plants of the Umatilla National Forest.

May 6, Sat. **Field Trip:** Harris Park and the South Fork of the Walla Walla River, southeast of Milton-Freewater. Leader is Don Rydrich. Meet, NE Corner, Safeway lot, 9 A.M.

May 7, Sun. **Field Trip:** Annual Bar-M Walkabout. For information, and to sign up, contact BMCC.

May 20-21  
Sat. - Sun. **Work Days:** At Boardman RNA (Sat.) and Lindsay Prairie (Sun.), with Berta Youtie, The Nature Conservancy. Car-pool from Pendleton Safeway at 8 A.M. each day. To camp nearby or to meet there, contact Berta in La Grande.

## Corvallis

April 10, Mon. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M., room 2087, Cordley Hall, OSU campus. Loren Russell will present "Spring in the Illinois Valley."

April 22-23  
Sat. - Sun. **Field Trip:** Loren Russell leads an overnight trip to Eight Dollar Mt. in Josephine County. Contact Loren Russell, 752-7558, for details.

May 13, Sat. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. to Alsea Falls. Dr. Dave Wagner will lead to look at bryophytes. He will provide a bryophyte species list for the area, compiled in the 1930's and 1940's by Ethel Sanborn. Car-pool from OSU parking lot, 26th and Monroe (across from the Beanery). For information call Dick Brainerd at 758-4500.

## Emerald

April 15, Sat. **Special Meeting:** Lane County Rare and Endangered Plant update. If interested in participating, call Bruce Newhouse, 343-2364, for information on time and place.

April 22, Sat. **Field Trip:** To Rattlesnake Butte, The Nature Conservancy preserve west of the Willamette Valley near Monroe. This site is the only known remnant of a Lemmon's needlegrass/Oregon white oak savanna community. Leave from S. Eugene H.S., 10 A.M. Call trip leader Ed Alverson, 687-5586, for more information.

April 24, Mon. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. at Morse Ranch Park. Directions from downtown Eugene: Take Willamette St. south to Crest Dr. Z(right through "Y" for Donald, between 32nd and 33rd Aves. E). Go right (W) on Crest 4 blocks, turn right into Morse Ranch parking lot. John Cissel, director of the Cascade Center for Ecosystem Management, will speak about research and monitoring projects in the Willamette National Forest.

April 29-30  
Sat. - Sun. **Field Trip:** We invite any NPSOer (WNPS too) to join us at Lake Shasta, CA., to see newly-discovered Shasta snow wreath. Dress for poison oak. Meet at Water's Gulch trailhead (take Packer's Bay exit off I-5 at Lake Shasta) at 2 P.M. on Saturday. Night at campground or Weed or Redding motel. Home Sunday. E-mail or call Rhoda Love for location map: rglove@oregon.edu or (503) 345-6241.

## High Desert

April 22-23  
Sat.-Sun. **Field Trip:** Klamath Marsh Wildlife Refuge. This overnight trip will be to a federal refuge between Bend and Klamath Falls where we will see and help in efforts to restore damaged forested, grassland, and wetland ecosystems. It will be a combination work-party and fun with some easy hiking. We will leave early from Bend and meet

others at the refuge. Call Stu Garrett, 389-6981 evenings, for more information.

April 25, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, in Bend. Linda Rexroat, Range Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy, will discuss restoration ecology at Sycan Marsh.

May 20, Sat. **Field Trip:** Ecologist Maret Pajutee, Sisters Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest, will take us on a tour. Highlight will be the fire ecology of the Metolius Research Natural Area where several prescribed burns have been done. Also featured will be Maret's original research into the roles of insects and invertebrates in this pine forest ecosystem. She will point out wildflowers in this unique old-growth ecosystem. This promises to be a fascinating and unusual trip. Leave from Sisters Ranger District headquarters, Sisters, at 9 A.M. Call Maret for details, 549-7727 days, 549-3082 eves.

## Mid-Columbia

April 5, Wed. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M., Mosier School. Ed Alverson, a land steward for The Nature Conservancy, will give an overview of western Oregon Nature Conservancy preserves.

April 23, Sun. **Wildflower Show:** The 21st annual Wildflower Show. Mosier School, 10 - 4 P.M.

May 3, Wed. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M., Mosier School. Fred Hall, USFS, gives a presentation on plants and soils.

May 6, Sat. **Field Trip:** To Dallas Mountain Road, with ethnobotanist Eugene Hunn. Meet at Hood River Inn, 8:45 A.M. Limited to 20; sign up with Barbara Robinson, 478-3293. Trip co-sponsored with Portland Chapter, which see for details.

## North Coast

April 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** Meet at 10 A.M., Tillamook PUD, 1115 Pacific, for joint trip with the Portland Chapter, to Kilchis Park. See *Dodecatheon austrofrigidum* and *Erythronium revolutum*. Moderate hike. Take lunch and water. Leader: Jim Winslow, 842-4131.

April 22, Sat. **Field Trip:** Meet at 10 A.M., at the Bay Ocean Spit parking lot, for first survey of vegetation on the spit. Trip leader is Jim Winslow, 842-4131.

April 25, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Tillamook YMCA, 610 Stillwell Ave. NPSO legislative chair, Steve Hinton, will discuss resource and environmental issues facing the 1995 legislative session. For more information call Christine Stanley, 436-0161.

## Portland

April 1, Sat. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M. Columbia Gorge "Cherry Orchard" site with Barbara Robinson, 478-3293, of Mid-Columbia Chapter. Very scenic 6.5 mi. hike, 1,400 ft. elev. gain. Meet at ODOT, 60th and Glisan, or 10:15 A.M., Hood River Inn parking lot.

April 2, Sun. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M. Fanno Creek Greenway with Doug Smithey, 590-3421, of Fans of Fanno, and Mary Vogel, 645-1992, of NPSO. Inspect some recent restoration work along this easy 5 mi. R.T. from Greenway Park to Englewood Park. Take a wetlands field guide, since we pass through several. Meet at Fanno House east of Hall Blvd. on Creekside (historic house in an office park!). Progress exit from Hwy. 217.

April 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** 8 A.M. Trask River, with North Coast Chapter, led by Jim Winslow,

842-2246. Hike 1 mi. along Trask River to see shooting stars and pink fawn lilies and other Trask sites by car. Then hike 3 mi. through Kilchis River old growth with Mary Vogel. Call Mary Vogel by April 1, if you want to stay overnight with a North Coast Chapter member. Meet at Tanasbourne Target at 185th off Sunset Hwy.

- April 9, Sun. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M.- 1 P.M. Peninsula Crossing Trail through N. Portland and Smith and Bybee Lakes, with Portland Parks' Jim Sjulín, 823-5122, Metro's Jim Morgan, 797-1727 and Cathedral Park neighborhood assoc. reps. Clarice White and Jim Barnes. See the madrones of Mock Crest. Come with your ideas for native plant restoration along the proposed trail site -- never-built Carey Blvd. Then explore a 2,000 acre natural area, home to beavers, herons, hawks, waterfowl, songbirds, turtles and bald eagles. Meet at Geneva Ave. of N. Fessenden St. to car-pool to start of hike. Binoculars recommended for lakes.
- April 11, Tues. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. First Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Professor Keith Karoly, Reed College Botany Dept., will talk about "Lupines, Lilies and Meadow-rue: Studies in Plant Mating Systems Ecology." The meeting room will be open at 6:30 P.M., for socializing.
- April 15, Sat. **Field Trip:** 8:30 A.M. Burlington Bottoms Wetland, with Sue Beilke, 657-2129 (W), wildlife biologist, ODFW, to look at interaction of wetlands plants and wildlife on this rare opportunity to enter this 417 acre site. Walk about 3 mi. We will also look at proposed Sauvie Island to Beaverton/Hillsboro trailhead site where Mary Vogel, NPSO, will cover some issues for this 7 Mi. rail-to-trail conversion. Binoculars/spotting scopes and knee boots recommended for the Bottoms. Meet at Sauvie Island parking lot at bottom of bridge to car-pool. Max: 20 people. Call 657-2129 to register.
- April 16, Sun. **Field Trip:** Noon. Clackamas River Greenway CANOE TRIP with botanist Mart Hughes, 659-8509, and Gordon Jones, 653-6449, of Friends of the Clackamas. Botanize shoreline and explore riparian structure of mature fir forest islands and oak uplands along the proposed North Bank of the Clackamas Trail. Call for meeting place, what to take and to volunteer canoe space to share. You need some canoe experience on this trip.
- April 22, Sat. **Field Trip:** 7:30 A.M. East bank, Deschutes River, north of Sherar's Bridge. Jan and Dave Dobak, 248-9242, will lead a car botanizing trip along the river access road with minimum walking. Driving: 225 mi. R.T. Return to Portland 6 P.M. or later. Meet at Lewis & Clark State Park off I-84.
- April 23, Sun. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M. Weldon Wagon Trail. Krista Thie will share her vast knowledge of medicinal and other uses of flowers, trees, grasses on this leisurely 3 mi. R.T., on a historic trail through oak woodland and grassy bald. Expect *Sisyrinchium* (blue-eyed grass) and *Fritillaria pudica* (yellow bells). Meet at ODOT, 60th & NE Glisan.
- April 29, Sat. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M. Castilleja Hill & nearby areas with Barbara Robinson, 478-3293, of Mid-Columbia Chapter. 2 1/2 mi. 400 ft. elev. gain, followed by optional 2 mi. +/- hike, for those wanting a more rigorous day. Dress for poison oak and take preventive lotion. Lupine, balsamroot, Indian paintbrush. Meet at ODOT, 60th and NE Glisan. Second meeting place: 10:15 at Hood River Inn parking lot.
- April 30, Sun. **Field Trip:** 2 P.M. Jackson Bottoms wetland and Dairy Creek addition, with Pat Willis and Jan Curry, 681-6206. On this 3-4 mi. walk we will see wapatos, cattails, beggarticks, water plantains, etc. Mink, river otter and 144 species of birds have been seen in this 650 acre area too! Binoculars recommended for the Bottoms. Meet at Target, at 185th off Sunset Hwy.
- May 6, Sat. **Field Trip:** 7:30 A.M. Dallas Mt. Rd. with ethnobotanist Eugene Hunn, Professor of

Anthropology, U. of O., author of "Nch'i - Wana: The Big River." Joint trip with Mid-Columbia Chapter to explore "Plants the Indians Used." Barbara Robinson, 478-3292, or Mary Vogel, 645-1992. Meet at ODOT, 60th and NE Glisan, or at 8:45 A.M. at Hood River Inn. Limited to 20; sign up with Barbara Robinson, (503) 478-3292.

- May 7, Sun. **Field Trip:** 9 A.M. Beaver Creek Canyon with Paul Rabe, 667-4101, president of its friends' group, and Mary Vogel, 645-1992, NPSO. Wear quick-drying clothes and foot gear you plan to get wet; part of trip may be through the creek; also take change of clothes. User-made path is only about 1/2 mi. long. Meet at ODOT, 60th and NE Glisan, or, at 9:30 A.M. at the Thriftway, Troutdale Rd. and Stark.
- May 14, Sun. **Field Trip:** 9:45 A.M. Sandy River Gorge. See the Diack Tract with a representative of The Nature Conservancy, 3 mi., 300 ft. elev. gain; then look at some of the *Open Space* ballot measure target areas, with a representative of Friends of the Sandy. Hear some of the fascinating history of this state scenic waterway. Meet at ODOT, 60th and NE Glisan. Limit 20. Call The Nature Conservancy, 228-9561, to register.

## Siskiyou

- April 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** Upper Table Rock hike led by Barbara Mumblo. This is a part of the Nature Conservancy's program of hikes on the Table Rocks. Please call 770-2349 to reserve a space for this hike. Meet at Upper Table Rock trailhead, at 10 A.M.
- April 20, Thurs. **Meeting:** 7:30 P.M. Room 171, Science Building, SOSEC, Ashland. Lucile Housley, ethnobotanist and Lakeview BLM botanist, will present "Plant Use by Native Americans -- Past and Present."
- April 22-23  
Sat. - Sun. **Earth Day Celebration:** Celebrating Our Siskiyou Heritage -- 25th Anniversary of Earth Day. An exhibition at the Merlin Armory in Merlin (northwest of Grants Pass. The Siskiyou National Forest, Medford BLM and Rogue River National Forest, with a variety of partners will host a large exhibition celebrating the natural and cultural heritage of the Siskiyou Mountains region. It will feature the "Windows on the Past" display, plus 20-30 more booths featuring cultural heritage, natural history and conservation displays particular to our unique region.
- April 29-30  
Sat. - Sun. **Wildflower Show:** The Shady Cove Wildflower Show at Shady Cove Elementary School. (Shady Cove is north of Medford on Hwy. 62.

## South Coast

- April 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** Lemmingsworth Gulch to see *Darlingtonia* bogs with hopes of seeing *Pinguicula vulgaris* and *Viola primulifolia*. Meet at the Brookings Fred Meyer, along highway 101 at 10 A.M.

## Umpqua Valley

- April 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** Up Little River to look at bryophytes. Meet for 8 A.M. departure at the BLM parking lot, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd. For more information, call Russ Holmes, trip leader, at 672-4635.
- April 13, Thurs. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. in room 310, Douglas County Courthouse. Jack Hausotter will give a program on early spring mushrooms -- the morels and lorchels. For more information, call Jack Hausotter at 863-4344.

## Willamette Valley

- April 1, Sat. **Field Trip:** Join the Portland Chapter (which see) for a Columbia Gorge field trip. Meet at 7:45 A.M., NW corner of the shopping center parking lot at North River Road and Lakeview Dr. in Keizer. For more information call Wilbur Bluhm, 393-2934.
- April 17, Mon. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. United Methodist Church, 600 State St. NE, Salem. Susan Kephart will give a slide show, "The Conservation Biology of the Cascade Head Catchfly." This is the last regular monthly meeting until September.
- April 22, Sat. **Field Trip:** Mill Creek in Polk County. Easy hike. Meet at S. Salem K-Mart parking lot on Mission St. at 8:30 A.M. For information call trip leader Clint Urey, 393-0886.

## Wm. Cusick

**Officers:** Barbara Russell is the new president.

- April 8, Sat. **Field Trip:** Tree planting and wildflower sign installation at the Rebarrow Forest Stewardship Project. Meet, 8 A.M., at the Forest and Range Laboratory, Gekeler and C. Aves., La Grande, for car-pooling. Call Bob Ottersberg, 963-6043, for more information.
- April 19, Wed. **Meeting:** 7 P.M. Features Paula Brooks with a slide show presentation of special hike in the Elkhorn Mountains. Forest and Range Laboratory, Gekeler and C Aves., La Grande.

### IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Participation is at your own risk. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Bring water and lunch. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

### NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in many wilderness areas to 12. The reason is to limit human impacts on these fragile areas. Each group using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12.

### Guidelines for Contributors to the Bulletin

NPSO Bulletin published monthly as a service to members and the public.  
All kinds of contributions welcome. **Copy due by the 10th of the month.**

**CREDITS:** Identify author and affiliation. If not original, cite source and date.

**ILLUSTRATIONS:** Line drawings, prints and high contrast black-and-white prints useable. Some McIntosh graphics can be used. Contact editor for current needs, or send illustrations.

**BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE:** Follow "Flora of the Pacific Northwest" by Hitchcock, or "The Jepson Manual" where appropriate.

**FORMAT:** Submissions can be in any form. Use of a modem is not possible at this time.  
For further details consult editor.

**ORIGINALS:** Submissions are not returned, unless requested.

## Field Trip Leader Suggestions

With the return of the wildflowers, field trip season has swung into full gear. I'd like to offer a few suggestions that I believe will increase learning, active participation, enjoyment and safety on our field trips -- and hence increase our membership.

1. Take a map/and or written directions if getting to the trailhead is likely to be complicated. Make people feel that we want their participation and will do what we can to facilitate it.
2. Do make sure people put on a name tag (supplied) and that they introduce themselves to the group -- at least their name and where they heard about the trip. The more we can create a sense of community among participants, the more they will participate.
3. Do make sure everyone signs the release form (contact Portland Chapter). Those who have checked that they are non-members should be asked if they would like an application. One of my primary goals for field trips is that they build a broad and informed membership.
4. Don't botanize in the parking lot. People are often cold, stiff and anxious to move when arriving at the vehicle destination. First get well away from the noise of traffic, the smell of exhausts or the view of the road or parking lot.
5. Don't cover more than one or two plants at any one stop. Avoid information overload. Folks tend to remember more if you give them less at one time.
6. Make sure you are fully stopped and the entire group has caught up before talking about a plant. If you have a lot of ground and plants to cover, ask one or two people you have spotted to repeat, at intervals, what you have said to those in back of them.
7. Share more than just the name of the plant, if you can, and also give the common name. (We want beginners to come back.) Suggestions of things to talk about: soil type, elevation and climate the plant grows in; the community of plants it grows with; its role in the plant community; the butterflies, insects, birds and other wildlife that use it; ethnobotanical and modern uses of the plant -- for medicine, food, crafts, landscaping,

etc.; its seeds/spores; ease and method of propagation; mycorrhizal associations; its folklore; abundance or rarity; ecological issues, etc., etc., etc.

8. Share some of the history of the area you are visiting. If you have time, do a little research on the area ahead of time. The USFS and other public agencies can often be helpful here.
9. Ask the field trip participants to share what they know too. Questions will get them started. Active rather than passive participation creates a sense of community. On the way back to the trailhead, ask them to share what they learned earlier in the day. Repetition helps!
10. Each leader should carry rain gear and a well-equipped first aid kit, and the rest of the ten essentials for safe back country travel. They are: rain gear, sun gear, whistle, map and compass, flashlight with extra batteries and bulb, pocket knife, waterproof matches, emergency blanket, emergency food and clothing. Take extra rain and sun gear if you have it to lend, signing it out by taking names and phone numbers. Tell participants you have brought it and ask if anyone has forgotten anything; this helps participants to become more safety conscious.
11. Share your suggestions on leading better field trips with your chapter's field trip coordinator.

Mary Vogel  
Vice President for Field Trips  
Portland Chapter

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### Paid Volunteer Needed

NPSO needs a volunteer to serve as liaison to the Environmental Federation of Oregon. This is one of the premier umbrella green groups in the state. It is associated with the United Way campaign. The NPSO board will pay \$1000/year to a NPSO member who will attend meetings in Portland and activities associated with EFO. Some community involvement and coordination with chapters will be needed. This is an excellent opportunity to get involved in important statewide issues and really make a difference. Averages six to eight hours a month. Call Stu Garrett, 389-6981, evenings, for details.

## Botany Scholarships Available

The Jean Davis Memorial Fund is again offering a scholarship for the 1995-96 school year for the amount of \$1,000.

This scholarship will be given to a student attending an Oregon college, and enrolled in plant systemics or plant ecology. Students must have completed two years of satisfactory college work and be enrolled full time.

The NPSO bylaws for this scholarship state that all applications are to be in by April 1, 1995. However, since this is a late notice, the deadline for entries has been extended to April 30, 1995, with the recipient being chosen by June 1, 1995.

To receive an application, please call, or write, to:

Harriet Schoppert  
11265 Phantom Lane  
Stayton, Oregon 97383  
(503) 859-2613

Harriet Schoppert  
Committee Chair

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## Oregon Flora Newsletter

The Oregon Flora Newsletter was inaugurated in mid-January and distributed to about 235 people. The newsletter reports news about the Oregon Flora Project and will include a broad range of articles relating to names and distributions of plants in Oregon. If you would like to be added to (or removed from) the mailing list, please send your name and address by mail or e-mail to:

Scott Sundberg  
Department of Botany & Plant Pathology  
Oregon State University  
Cordley Hall 2082  
Corvallis, OR 97331-2902  
e-mail: sundbers@bcc.orst.edu  
telephone: (503) 737-4106

## Wanted

### Addresses of Herbaria in Oregon

The Oregon Flora Project is seeking information on herbaria in Oregon. We would like to contact curators of collections containing over 500 mounted and labeled specimens. If you know of a herbarium that we are not already aware of, please send a postcard with the herbarium name, and the name, address, and daytime telephone number of the herbarium curator or responsible individual (if known) to Scott Sundberg (address in note on Oregon Flora Newsletter). Please also include your name and address.

We are aware of herbaria at the following institutions: Douglas County Museum of History and Natural History, Forestry and Range Sciences Lab (La Grande), Portland State University, Eastern Oregon State College, Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management, Crater Lake National Park, Lakeview District BLM, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Lane Community College, Linfield Community College, and Oregon State University (including University of Oregon and Willamette University collections).

Scott Sundberg

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## Restore Our Highways

According to Brian Newby, Landscape Supervisor for the Oregon Department of Transportation, even ODOT and the federal Department of Transportation are making an effort toward having more native plants in the public landscape. Brian is asking NPSO for a list of all wildflowers in Oregon as well as information on reliable seed sources. Please send him your ideas and/or references for such a list. He has at least three propagation greenhouses where he is propagating native plants for highway plantings -- especially salal. I feel that it is extremely important that he hear from those of us who would like to see our highway median strips and borders support more native plants and hence native wildlife. His address and phone number are: Brian Newby, Landscape Supervisor, ODOT, 9637 SW 35th Dr., Portland, OR 97219.

Mary Vogel  
Portland Chapter



## Two North American Plant Hunters: Expressions of Delight at Discovery of Something New

"I beheld a small patch of beautiful low growing deep rose-colored plants and because of its beauty I started running toward it and dropped to my knees...I had never seen anything so beautiful before...I believed it was new."

So wrote Lilla Leach in her journal in 1938 following the discovery of *Kalmiopsis leachiana* on June 14, 1930, near Pearsoll Peak, Curry County. This delightful journal entry was published in MAZAMA XX (12), December, 1983.

Lilla Leach was almost effusive, at best unrestrained, in her delight with the beauty of the low, rose-colored patch, which she immediately believed to be a new species, unknown before to North American taxonomy.

To find such expressed emotion by recognized plant hunters or taxonomists (Lilla and her husband John Leach were plant hunters), the reader should try to locate original sources, which, as the following instance shows, may require long term persistence in herbaria and specialized libraries.

André Michaux, French botanist and North American explorer, was walking with Indian guides from coastal South Carolina north toward an Appalachian range, in December, 1788, in order to gather transplantable cuttings and dormant plant parts. In the dusk of a rainy day, he saw under dripping branches some rosettes of leaves. He quickly realized that the unfamiliar leaves belonged to something new. That night by firelight in an Indian lodge he made sufficient notes in his diary that he, as well as later hunters, could again locate the new plants.

From the Michaux diary: "I did not find it on any other mountain. The savages told me the leaves have a nice taste...and give forth a pleasant odor when pinched. This I demonstrated effectually for myself."

The French plant explorer's diary was later lost and escaped the notice of scholar's for 99 years, until two American botanists rediscovered the long-buried botanical information. The clever and experienced taxonomist, Asa Gray of Harvard, described the flowering parts from the little knowledge of the vegetative organs André Michaux had

left in Paris and which had reached the library of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. The equally well known Boston botanist, Professor C.S. Sargent of the Arnold Arboretum, found the elusive plant of Michaux in the Cherokee country of western North Carolina. Dr. Asa Gray, without having seen the flower and its reproductive parts, named it *Shortia galacifolia*, Its genus he named for a contemporary Kentucky botanist.

In the 1930's, a much later wandering plantsman out of Washington, D.C. went to the Carolinas in search of the primrose-like *Shortia*. He found it only in the Blue Ridge hills of Virginia. This was the naturalist-writer, Donald C. Peattie. In his book, *The Road of a Naturalist* (1941), he wrote, in enviable prose, an answer to the question of how A. Michaux and Lilla Leach, in their own centuries, on their respective distant edges of the North American continent, each knew so well that they had found some new, previously undescribed plant. Peattie claimed it was an intuitive "seventh sense -- for the look, stance and feel of a plant;" therefore the expression of great emotion at the moment of discovery is justified. The specific name of this *Shortia*, *S. galacifolia*, Torrey N. Gray, refers to leaves like a previously known plant genus, *Galax*.

*Shortia*, of the small plant family *Diapensiaceae*, is not really rare, just widely distributed and scattered within its range, as is *Kalmiopsis* (meaning *Kalmia*).

My thanks to Aaron Liston, Assistant Professor, O.S.U. Herbarium, Department of Botany, for his help in confirmation of currently accepted names, and to Rhoda Love, of Eugene, a friendly advisor-referee.

Edward P. Thatcher, Professor Emeritus  
Eugene, Oregon

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## Natural History Seminars

Algae, lichens, liverworts, sedges, rushes, grasses and mosses are just a few of the subjects covered in seminars this summer on the Maine coast. For more information, call or write to:

Eagle Hill Field Research Station  
Dyer Bay Road, PO Box 9  
Steuben, Maine 04680-0009  
207-546-2821, FAX -3042  
Internet EAGLHILL@MAINE.MAINE.EDU

## NATURE CONSERVANCY SETS MEMORIAL FOR NPSO MEMBER

The Nature Conservancy of Oregon has set up a memorial internship at Cascade Head for Alfred Krampert. Mr. Krampert was a long time member of the North Coast Chapter, serving for many years as treasurer. Before moving to Oregon, he was a trustee of the Wisconsin Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and was instrumental in preserving the 300-acre Chiwaukee Prairie south of Kenosha, Wisconsin, one of the few remaining native prairies in Wisconsin. In 1991, the Al Krampert Trail was dedicated in his honor at Chiwaukee Prairie.

Donations for the Al Krampert Cascade Head Field Ecologist Intern can be made to The Nature Conservancy of Oregon, 1205 NW 25th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97210. Please note on the check or in a memo that it is for the Al Krampert memorial.

Jim Winslow  
North Coast Chapter

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### The 1995 Glide Wildflower Show

It is on the 29th and 30th of April, from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. (photographers only from 8 - 9 A.M.) at the Glide Community Center, Highway 138, in Glide, Oregon.

This year's show is sponsored by the Glide Community Club. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted to defray expenses. A floral book and identification guide will be available for a nominal charge. Food and beverages will be sold from the kitchen.

The show features hundreds of wildflowers from southwestern Oregon, identified by both common and scientific names. There will also be tree and shrub specimens, lichens, bryophytes, ferns, a special display of "weeds," and photographic displays of rare, threatened and endangered species. Slide shows on "The Ferns of Oregon" and "The Mystery of Wildflowers" will be given on both days.

For more information, call Abbey Rosso, 498-2263, or write to PO Box 235, Idleyld Park, Oregon 97447.

## New Plant Identification System

A plant key/identification program has been produced for the 1235 plants of the Umatilla National Forest, including grasses, sedges, rushes, trees, shrubs, ferns, horsetails, Botrychium and, of course, herbs. It is a computer polyclave system, which is much faster and easier to use than the standard dichotomous keys, and takes much less knowledge of plants to be able to use it. A minimum of botanical terms are employed, and help screens provide ready definitions. The user simply punches in those characteristics of the plant which are most obvious (choosing from menus of over 80 different characteristics), and the computer sorts for the plant with that combination. Usually, only four or five characteristics are all that are needed, such as leaf shape, plant height, flower color and leaf surface. Most plants can be identified with just a few keystrokes and in less than one minute. The program runs on any IBM type computer, 286 or higher, and is condensed enough to run on a palmtop computer in the field.

Bruce Barnes authored the program, and plans to be at the NPSO annual meeting to demonstrate it for anyone who may be interested. For information, Bruce can be contacted at 278-2222 (O), 276-5547 (H), 731 NW 5th, Pendleton, OR 97801, or [dbarnes@ednet1.osl.or.gov](mailto:dbarnes@ednet1.osl.or.gov).

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### Desert Conference XVII "Breaking Barriers/New Visions"

It is hosted by the Oregon Natural Desert Association, at the Malheur Field Station, near Burns, Oregon. And it will take place on the 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th of April (Thursday evening through Sunday noon).

Activities: Thursday - Registration.  
Friday - Additional registration, field trips, slide program.  
Saturday and Sunday - Speaker presentations, panel discussions, workshops (breakout sessions), evening socializing and entertainment.

Registration: Early registration is recommended, because attendance is limited. For information, or to request a brochure/registration form, call ONDA at (503) 385-6908, or write to: Desert Conference XVII, c/o Oregon Natural Desert Association, 16 NW Kansas, Bend, OR 97701.

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## In this issue

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Field Trip Leader Suggestions -- Mary Vogel. ....               | 43 |
| Paid Volunteer Needed. ....                                     | 43 |
| Botany Scholarships Available -- Harriet Schoppert. ....        | 44 |
| Oregon Flora Newsletter -- Scott Sundberg. ....                 | 44 |
| Wanted: Addresses of Herbaria in Oregon -- Scott Sundberg. .... | 44 |
| Restore Our Highways -- Mary Vogel. ....                        | 44 |
| Two North American Plant Hunters -- Edward P. Thatcher. ....    | 45 |
| Natural History Seminars. ....                                  | 45 |
| Nature Conservancy Sets Memorial for NPSO Member. ....          | 46 |
| The 1995 Glide Wildflower Show. ....                            | 46 |
| New Plant Identification System -- Bruce Barnes. ....           | 46 |
| Desert Conference XVII. ....                                    | 46 |

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