



# Bulletin

of the

# Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 34, No. 5

40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

MAY 2001

## The Return of a Wet Prairie

by Dave Hanson, Cheahmill Chapter

About ten miles southwest of McMinnville in the foothills of the Coast Range, lies a tract of public land where natural processes are recovering a piece of our past. Located six miles north of well-traveled Highway 18, Deer Creek County Park lies within Gopher Valley, a flat and narrow bottomland sheltered between fir-covered ridges. This park which has possibly the most tranquil setting in the county, has a six-acre portion traditionally developed, with picnic tables and mowed grass, nestled under the canopy of a grove of Oregon ash alongside Deer Creek.

Directly adjacent to the west lies the other part of the park—a 23-acre,

somewhat nondescript expanse of grass and weeds—which makes Deer Creek Park unique. Out in that rundown looking field, our native prairie community has been slowly returning.

### Ecological History of the Site

For thousands of years the Willamette Valley was periodically burned by humans, leading to the evolution of fire-disturbance ecosystems—wet prairie, dry prairie, and oak savanna. Nearly one million acres of prairies were maintained through annual burning by the people inhabiting the valley known as the Kalapuya. Tufted hairgrass was one of the dominant species of the extensive wet prairies, being well-adapted to both periodic fires and the widespread hydric soils. It grew intermixed with other perennial plants such as sedges, rushes, bulbs, and wildflowers.

Deer Creek, a tributary of the South Yamhill River, flows south out of the steep hills of the Coast Range. When it reaches Gopher Valley, a flat narrow plain, the stream gradient decreases, causing the stream to slow and develop a more sinuous channel pattern. This valley of open prairies and densely vegetated riparian corridors was seasonally occupied by the Kalapuyan people, who periodically set it on fire to maintain conditions favorable for their needs. The riparian forests along Deer Creek included large trees species such as Douglas-fir, grand fir, cottonwood, ash, and alder along with an understory of shrub species. Fallen trees from this riparian forest,

combined with large, woody debris carried downstream from the forested uplands, produced frequent log jams in the stream channel. These dams, along with those made by beaver, trapped and stored deposits of sediment creating meandering streams having multiple side-channels. The strong forces of floodwaters and debris flows were dissipated by the riparian vegetation and dispersed over the adjacent floodplains. The seasonal inundation of the floodplains recharged groundwater crucial for maintaining cool streamflows during the dry summers.

### Settlement

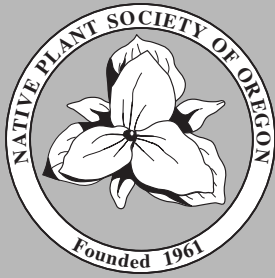
The settlers arriving in Gopher Valley in the mid-1800s, brought land-use practices that gradually produced major ecological changes in the landscape. They began ditching and draining the wetlands and prairies to make cultivation possible. The winding, debris-clogged streams were cleared and straightened to speed the drainage of the fields. Beaver were largely eliminated from the watershed as their dam-building was perceived as a nuisance to farming. Over the years, the dense, riparian forests of large trees that shaded the stream banks were steadily cut away for firewood and lumber, and then converted to agriculture.

But the most profound change in the landscape by the new settlers was the suppression of wildfire. When the longstanding practice of seasonal prairie-burning by the Kalapuya ceased,

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## Native Plant Society of Oregon

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<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors of the articles. They do not represent the opinions of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, unless so stated.

## ANNUAL MEETING

### June 8-10

#### See back page

Reminder: The Cost for registration will double after May 9th! Please send in your registration form today. See March *Bulletin* for forms.

## New Fellows of NPSO Elected

At the April 14 State Board Meeting in The Dalles, Charlene Simpson and Veva Stansell were unanimously elected Fellows of NPSO, our Society's highest honor. They will receive their awards at the Annual Meeting Banquet in Corvallis June 9. Congratulations Charlene and Veva!

## State Secretary Candidate Biography

Kelli Van Norman grew up in the mountains of southwestern Oregon hiking and learning the native flora through 4-H Forestry. She has a B.S. in Geography from the University of Oregon and an M.S. in Forest Science from Oregon State University. While living in Corvallis, Kelli helped out with the Corvallis chapter's native plant garden at Avery Park. Recently Kelli has worked as a forest ecologist for the Forest Service in Brookings.

Beginning this May she will be relocating to Portland to work for the Bureau of Land Management on the Northwest Forest Plan's species database. In Portland she hopes to continue gardening with native plants. She also hopes to purchase a dissecting microscope soon so that she can stop procrastinating and learn to identify grasses.



*The blossoms of Scoliopterus hallii are small but intriguing. Slink lily or Fetid adder's tongue is an early-blooming flower of moist forests throughout much of western Oregon. As its common name implies it is a member of Liliaceae. To attract pollinating flies it smells like rotting flesh.*

TANYA HARVEY

## State

### June 8-10, Friday-Sunday

**Annual Meeting:** in Corvallis. For more information see page 68 of this issue and March *Bulletin* for registration form and information.

### June 10, Sunday

**Board Meeting:** Marketplace West (aka West Dining Hall) in Corvallis. 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

## Blue Mountain

For information on the Blue Mountain chapter call Jerry Baker at 541-566-3381.

## Cheahmill

### May 6, Sunday

**Field Trip: Camassia Preserve of the Nature Conservancy in West Linn.** Start Time: 10:00 am. This area is an odd oasis of diversity so close to the big city of Portland. We will see Camas and other spring-blooming flowers such as Iris, *Erythronium*, *Sedum spathulifolium*, and False Solomon's-Seal. We will be on the lookout for the rare *Delphinium leucophaeum*. There is also a remnant stand of Quaking Aspen. This is a walk and not a hike. Bring good walking shoes though and expect to walk about a mile on developed trails. Parking is limited. For more information, to register, and directions, call trip leaders Chuck and Patti Buffett at 503-474-1386.

### May 10, Thursday

**Meeting: Native American Fire Management.** Robert Boyd, consulting anthropologist and adjunct professor of anthropology at Portland State University, will present evidence for fire management of natural resources by West Coast Native Americans, especially the Kalapuya Indians of the Willamette Valley. Mr. Boyd is editor of, *Indians, Fire, and the Land in the Pacific*

*Northwest* published in 1996 by OSU Press. 7:00 pm, Graf Hall, Room 101, Linfield College, 900 SE Baker St., McMinnville. For more info call Rob Tracey at 503-843-2702.

## Corvallis

### May 14, Monday

**Meeting: Willamette Valley Butterfly Gardening.** Bruce Newhouse and Eric Wold of the Eugene-Springfield Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (and NPSO) will discuss the keys to successful butterfly gardening in the Willamette Valley. Meet at

7:30 pm at Avery House, Avery Park, Corvallis. For more information contact Esther McEvoy at 541-754-0893.

### June 8,9,10

**Annual NPSO Meeting** in Corvallis Registration and information in March *Bulletin* and on page 68.

## Emerald

### May 5, Saturday

**Field Trip: Tour a Local Native Plant Garden.** We will visit the Eugene garden of Alice Pueschner which features around 90 native plant species. Meet at 10:00 am at northeast corner South Eugene High School parking lot, for an approximately 1.5 hour field trip. For more information contact Heiko Koester at 541-485-7245.

### May 12, Saturday

**Field Trip: Willows of the Eugene Area.** Learn how to tell our local willow species apart by their vegetative characteristics. We will also discuss the ecology of willows and the riparian areas and wetlands where they live. We will visit a site on the Willamette River and then head out to Kirk Ponds downstream of Fern Ridge Dam. An easy walk, bring hand lens, lunch, water, and rain gear if it's a wet day. Meet at 9:00 am at South Eugene High School parking lot. Leaders: Danna Lytjen and Nick Otting. 541-334-4499.

### May 14, Monday

**Meeting: The Art of Botanical Illustration – 3000 Years of History and One Week in London.** Bonnie Hall, retired scientific illustrator with a passion for creating screenprinted botanical portraits of Northwest native plants, will give us a visual tour of centuries of wonderful illustrations. We'll also get to see Bonnie's own beautiful work, some of which she'll have available for purchase. **Note: the meeting is on the second monday this month.** 7:30 pm,

### 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. Be prepared to sign a release form indicating this. For a sample copy check out the NPSO website. 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. National Forests require a Northwest Forest Pass for many field trip locations. Permits can be acquired at forest headquarters and ranger districts.

### 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. Groups using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12.

Room 117, Science Building, LCC main campus, Eugene. For more info contact Nick Otting, 541-334-4499.

### May 15, Tuesday

**Field Trip: Evening trip to the Natural Landscape and Habitat Restoration Project at South Eugene High School.** For the last three years SEHS students have been working on this exciting project under the direction of horticulturalist Dennis Lueck. This is a good opportunity to see many native prairie plants. The project is sponsored by the student environmental club and Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP). Meet at 6:30 pm at the northeast corner South Eugene High School parking lot. Over by 7:30 pm. For more information contact Becky Riley at 541-461-4281.

### May 20, Sunday

**Event: Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Show.** See page 61 for info.

### May 26, Saturday

**Field Trip: Hult Marsh in the Coast Range.** Led by John Koenig. We will canoe the pond and explore the north marsh on foot. Expect to see *Utricularia gibba* and *Lycopodiella inundata*. Canoes to be provided by participants. Bring

lunch, hand lens and rubber boots. Trip limited to six canoes and/or 15 participants. To register, e-mail John at johnk@pond.net or call 541-343-0707.

### June 2, Saturday

**Field Trip: West Eugene Wetlands.** Join local Botanist Lynda Boyer and learn more about restoration efforts occurring in our own backyard. There will be a brief overview of the program's goals, then a visit to some newly restored and remnant wet prairie sites (one with three rare plant species). Meet 9:00 am at northeast corner South Eugene High School parking lot. Back around 2:00 pm. If you have it, bring *Wetland Plants of Oregon & Washington* by Jennifer Guard.

### June 23, Saturday

**Field Trip: Bear Grass Study Trip** with Dr. Nan Vance of the Pacific Northwest Research Station and Dr. Peter Bernhardt, a pollination ecologist from the University of St. Louis. Come learn about Nan's study to determine sustainable levels of beargrass harvest and help Peter collect insects for his beargrass pollination study. Trip will be a full day with some walking, although plots are close to the road and on relatively flat ground. We will be walking

through clearcuts, so good boots are essential. Meet 8:00 am at northeast corner of parking lot at South Eugene High School. Back by 5:00 pm. To sign up call Jenny Lippert at Willamette National Forest, 541-465-6321.

## High Desert

*Unless otherwise noted all trips will depart from the north end of the main parking lot on the east side of Pilot Butte State Park off of Hwy 20 (Greenwood St.) in Bend at 8:30 am sharp. Please arrive a few minutes early to form carpools. On one-day trips we will normally return to the parking lot by 5:30 pm. Please: no smoking, no picking or collecting of plants, and no pets. Remember, you participate at your own risk.*

### May 8, Tuesday

### May 16, Wednesday

### May 24, Thursday

**Work Party: Pilot Butte State Park: Stop the Alien Invaders!** The Butte is a special natural feature in the urban sea of Bend. This half million-year-old volcano has intact native bunchgrass communities over much of its flanks and springtime wildflowers abound. Unfortunately, in the last 10 years spotted knapweed, toadflax, cheatgrass, sweetclover, and mullein have begun to replace native plants. In cooperation with the State Parks Division and Pilot Butte Partners, we are pulling weeds to stop this invasion in its early stages. Bring gloves, wear sturdy footwear, and meet at the eastside parking lot at the base of the Butte at 6:00 pm for an hour of weed pulling! For more info call Stu Garrett at 541-389-6981 eves.

### May 12, Saturday

**Field Trip: Tam-A-Lau Trail (with Sierra Club).** A moderate hike to the peninsula above Lake Billy Chinook. About 8 miles roundtrip. Great views and wildflowers. Meet at 9:30 am at the K-Mart parking lot, Mountain View Mall, corner of Robal Rd. and Hwy 97. For more information call trip leaders Hanne Madsen 541-317-9134 or Alison Hamway 541-382-2035.



*Iris tenax. Serigraph illustration by artist and Corvallis NPSO member Bonnie Hall. Bonnie will be speaking about botanical art at the Emerald chapter's May 14th meeting.*

## June 9, Saturday

**Field Trip: The Island.** The Island Research Natural Area is a remnant example of our native grasslands. Much of the local high desert probably looked like this before grazing, farming, and urbanization took over. Unfortunately, even in this barely-grazed area, exotic weeds are a problem. NPSO will assist the BLM in removing medusahead from several small infested areas. This is a unique opportunity to visit the area since the Island Research Natural Area is closed to casual hiking. We may see rattlesnakes so long pants and boots are encouraged. Call trip leader Stu Garrett for details: 541-389-6981 eves.

## June 16, Saturday

**Field Trip: Mill Creek Wilderness/ Hash Rock Fire.** The Hash Rock fire in July of 2000 burned over 1000 acres, part of it in the Mill Creek Wilderness. We will hike into the wilderness to see fire effects and learn how the Forest Service is approaching the restoration of this special area. Due to wilderness travel, hiker numbers are limited to 12, so call trip leader Stu Garrett early at 541-389-6981 eves.

## June 23, Saturday

**Field Trip: Crescent Mountain** (with Sierra Club). Moderate to difficult climb up Crescent Mountain in the Cascades. Great views and wildflowers. Meet at 9:30 am at the JC Penney Parking Lot, Mountain View Mall, Hwy 20 side. Call Sierra trip leaders for more info: Hanne Madsen 541-317-9134 or Alison Hamway 541-382-2035.

## June 30, Saturday

**Field Trip: Hummingbird Meadows.** Exult in the beauty of mountain wildflowers. This easy to moderate 5-mile hike will explore some verdant meadows above 5,000 ft in the Rogue-Umpqua Divide Wilderness which is northwest of Crater Lake National Park. Be ready for any weather! Due to wilderness travel, hiker numbers are limited to 12, so call Reid early. Pre-registration is required! Note 8:00 am departure due to the 2.5 hours drive time. Return to Bend by 6:00 pm. Call

trip leader Reid Schuller for sign-up: days 541-317-0199.

## Klamath Basin

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, call David Lebo at 541-883-8393.

## Mid-Columbia

### May 2, Wednesday

**Meeting: The Miniature Insect World on a Native Lupine.** Jim McIvener of Pendleton, research ecologist with Forest Service Research, will give us a slide show about the fascinating entomological play that takes place on the stage of *Lupinus argenteus*. Some of the characters are ants, spiders, plant bugs, and assassin bugs. Some of the evolutionary plot lines are mimicry and murder. The performance starts at 7:30 pm at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles; take exit 82 off of I-84 and follow signs.

### May 20, Sunday

**Field Trip: the Hillis property, near Mill Creek.** Join us for a hike on this beautiful and diverse area southwest of The Dalles, owned by Hew and Jean Hillis. We will climb through mixed oak and fir woods on north-facing slopes to open meadows of flowers, and will make a plant list for the area. Expect to see columbine, dogwood trees, roses, balsamroot, lupines, and Indian paintbrush. For those who have time, we will then visit the mountain lady slippers on Jerry and Mike Igo's property if they are blooming. Meet at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center parking lot at 9:30 am (Exit 82 off I-84 and follow signs). Trip leaders are Jean Hillis and Barbara Robinson. Call Barbara for more info at 541-296-5334.

### June 6, Wednesday

**Meeting: Deschutes Basin Land Trust.** 7:30pm at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles (Exit 82 off I-84 and follow signs). The

Deschutes Basin Land Trust works out of Bend to protect significant habitats in the Central Oregon. Brad Chalfant, Executive director of the land trust, will show us slides of some of the lands the trust is working to protect, and discuss strategies that can be used by a land trust and by conservation-minded owners to protect land.

## North Coast

*Unless otherwise stated, the group will meet at 10:00 am at the front parking lot of the PUD building at the south end of Tillamook at 11th and Pacific. Guests are welcome, pets are not. For further information and if you intend to go, call or e-mail John Gerke at 503-842-5366 or johnroyal@juno.com or phone Nancy Eide (503-861-1837) or Kathleen Sayce (360-665-5292).*

### May 12, Saturday

**Field Trip: Fort Columbia.** At highway 101 west of the interstate bridge and east of Chinook, WA. Turn south into park just after tunnel. Park above tunnel. Wear hiking boots and bring lunch. Short hike of moderate intensity. Hope to see *Delphinium*, *Phacelia*, old growth Sitka spruce and upland forest. Phone Nancy or Kathleen.

### May 13, Sunday

**Field Trip: Summit of Wilson River Highway to Gales Creek Campground.** Meet at 10:00 am at the front parking lot of the PUD building at the south end of Tillamook at 11th and Pacific or at 10:30 am at the parking lot on the north side of the summit of the Wilson River Highway (Hwy 6 and Story Burn Road). We'll hike about 3 miles to the Gales Creek Campground where there is a rest room, picnic tables and a 15-passenger Forest Service van. We'll enjoy a succession of trees, shrubs and spring flowers as we descend. There is also a short nature trail to explore. Chris Friend of the Forest Grove Office of Oregon State Parks will share his research on the history of this area. After lunch the van will return us to the summit or you may hike on your own. Contact John.

## May 20, Sunday

**Field Trip: Peninsula Park on the Trask River.** Expect a large variety of lowland and upland plants. Hope to see shooting stars and delphinium. Hike will be moderately strenuous. Good hiking shoes and a walking stick are not required, but will be appropriate. Phone John.

## May 26, Saturday

**Field Trip: Mill Creek Pond and Swamp,** at Seaside, OR. Turn east off highway 101 on ave S. Go one block east and park by gate on right side of road, This will be a site listing trip to a new location. The site is a fresh water swamp, marsh and pond. Wear hip or knee high boots or wading sandals and shorts. Phone Nancy or Kathleen.

## June 4, Monday

**Meeting: Planning.** 7:00 pm at PUD building in Tillamook at 11th and Pacific. Park in the lot at the east end of the building and enter through the NE door. We'll plan future field trips and activities. If you would like to show some of your slides, let John Gerke know so that he can bring a projector.

## June 16, Saturday

**Field Trip: Oswald West State Park, Cape Falcon trail.** On Highway 101 between Manzanita and Arch Cape, just north of Neah-Kah-Nie Mt. Meet on east side of highway at the main day use parking lot, the one with a restroom. It will be an easy 4-mile (round trip) hike through coastal forest. Phone Nancy or Kathleen.

# Portland

## May 4 – June 1, Fridays

**Field Trip: Salmon River.** USFS Botanist Carol Horvath representing the Zig Zag Ranger District is leading one to two hour hikes on Friday mornings May 4th thru June 1st, to the Salmon River, It's an active time there for wildflowers. For more information call Greg Stone at 503-233-4761.

## May 5, Saturday

**Field Trip: Columbia Gorge East End.** Wishram/Maryhill. Trip leader Russ Jolley will show us many species not found anywhere else in the Gorge. Flowers include *Lesquerella*, *Astragalus*

*sclerocarpus* and *succumbens*, *Penstemon accuminatus*, *Oenothera contorta*, *Cryptantha celosioides*, and splendid bunchgrasses. 400 ft. elev. gain, 1.5 mi. hike. Driving time from Portland about 2 hrs. one way. Leave at 8:30 am, NE99th and Glisan Park and Ride, southeast corner of parking lot. For more information call Greg Stone at 503-233-4761.

## May 8, Tuesday

**Meeting: The Western Canadian Arctic: Flora and More.** Laura Gasaway will discuss recent trips to the western Arctic. 7:00 pm, Fireside Room (#355) of the First United Methodist Church located at 1838 SW Jefferson St. in Portland. For more information contact Skip Haak, 503-460-3198.

## May 26, Saturday

**Field Trip: Bald Butte.** Join trip leader Beth Magnus as she takes us to the beautiful meadows and oak woods of the Mt. Hood foothills, south of Hood River Valley. We'll see *Collomia grandiflora*, *Phoenicaulis cheiranthoides*, *Calypso bulbosa*, *Anemone oregana*, and the splendid Balsamroot. For time and meeting place call Beth at 503-226-7919.

## June 3, Sunday

**Field Trip: North Ridge of Augspurger Mountain.** We'll join trip leader Russ Jolley to explore the back side of Augspurger Mountain. This hike will be 3 miles R/T with an 1100ft. elev. gain. We'll be looking for *Hydrophyllum fendleri* along with many others. Leave 8:30 am from Gateway/NE 99th Ave. Park and Ride, southeast corner of parking lot. For more information call Greg Stone at 503-233-4761 or Russ at 503-286-2350.

## June 16, Saturday

**Field Trip: Cape Falcon, Oswald West State Park.** Nancy Eid and Kathleen Sayce from the N. Coast chapter are leading this 4-mile easy hike in the beautiful old growth coastal forests. We'll carpool from our meeting place for all destinations west; the old Cedar Hills shopping center parking lot right



*Balsamroot at Catherine Creek, Washington side of the Columbia Gorge.*

near the only coffee shop that's open. Leaving there at 8:30 am and we'll be meeting at the trailhead at 10:00 am. For directions and other info. call Greg Stone at 503-233-4761 or look in N. Coast Chapter listings.

### June 23, Saturday

**Field Trip: Coffin Mountain.** Loren Russell from the Corvallis Chapter, who gave us that wonderful slide show on alpine flora, is taking us up Coffin Mtn. to see *Iris chrysophylla*, *Helianthus cusickii* and *Convolvulus nyctagineus*, along with a great view of Mt. Jefferson when we reach the top. The hike is 3 miles R/T with 800 ft. elev. gain. Side trip to Bruno Meadows for great high meadow habitat if time allows. 2 hours driving time each way. Leave Cedar Hills shopping center parking lot at 8:00 am. For directions and more info. call Greg Stone at 503-233-4761.

## Siskiyou

*All trip participants will be required to sign a disclaimer. None of the trips are all access (on trails suitable for wheelchairs). For more information, call the trip leader or Don Heinze at 541-955-7247.*

### May 5, Saturday

**Field Trip: Illinois River Canyon.** 9:00 am. Right (south) side of the Selma Market parking lot in Selma, 20 miles south of Grants Pass on Highway 199. Leader: Don Heinze 541-955-7247. Along with many other flowers, we will see the most accessible stand of *Kalmiopsis* (namesake of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area) and a population of western *sopora*, both rare plants that were originally found by and named for one of Oregon's best known pioneer botanists, Lilla Leach. USFS trail permit is required. Easy 2-3 mile hike on a good trail, but the slope from the trail to the Illinois River is high and precipitous. Recommended prior reading: Begnoche, Don; *Siskiyou Sundays*, pages 91-100 and Kirkpatrick, Holzwarth, and Mullins, *The Botanist and Her Muleskinner*, pages 63-103.

### May 12, Saturday

**Field Trip: Hanky Panky on the Serpentine: The Story of Hybrids.** Rough and Ready Creek, Mud Springs Trail 9:00 am, Illinois Valley Visitor's Center 201 Caves Highway, Cave Junction. Leader: Mike Anderson (Mike does not have a phone, so call Don Heinze at 541-955-7247 for information). See the spectacular spring serpentine flora with an emphasis on serpentine hybrids. We'll see intermediate (hybrid) forms of rockcress, balsamroot, ceanothus, and manzanita with a discussion of what the evolutionary future might hold for each hybrid. Moderate 3-mile hike.

### May 17, Thursday

**Meeting: Wildflowers of the French Alps.** Loren Russell of Corvallis will show slides of the subalpine forest, meadows, turf and rocks near the village of La Grave in the Dauphine Alps of France, and discuss how the flora has been assembled and preserved by traditional agricultural practices occurring over thousands of years. 7:30 pm in Room 171 of the SOU Science Building in Ashland. For more information call Molly Sullivan at 541-770-7933.

### May 20, Sunday

**Field Trip: Limpy Creek.** 10:00 am, US Forest Service Building, 200 NE Greenfield Road in Grants Pass just north of Exit 58 of Interstate 5, Leaders: Linda Mullins 541-479-3243 and Janet Yoder 541-596-2691. Another chance to have a botanist-guided tour of this beautiful botanical hot spot. Both wet serpentine and dry serpentine habitats will be seen. Meet at the US Forest Service office in Grants Pass at 200 Greenfield Road, just north of the Interstate 5 Freeway at Exit 58. Easy one-mile hike.

### May 19, Saturday

**Field Trip: Pacifica Arboretum and Botanical Garden.** 9:00 am, Meet at Pacifica. Take Highway 238 southwest of Jacksonville (or southeast of Grants Pass) to the junction of 238 and Watergap Road. This junction is at the border of Jackson and Josephine Counties.

Turn south on Watergap Road toward Williams and go 2.3 miles. The Pacifica gate will be on the left (east) side of the road. Go up the driveway, under a large wooden arch and proceed to the meeting place, a big building on the right side of the road. Leader: Barbara Mumblo (541-770-2349 or 541-899-1812). See first hand one of the most exciting botanical projects ever to come to southern Oregon. This trip is one of many activities that will take place at Pacifica on May 19, which is called "Take Flight Day". Easy hike.

### May 26, Saturday

**Field Trip: Four Faces of Serpentine, Tennessee Pass.** 9:00 am, Illinois Valley Visitor's Center 201 Caves Highway, Cave Junction. Leader: Mike Anderson (Mike does not have a phone, so call Don Heinze at 541-955-7247 for information) This hike will focus on the four Klamath Mountain serpentine habitats and the plants associated with each habitat. We'll see riparian, chaparral, savanna, and barrens, each uniquely different. One habitat, the chaparral—mixed conifers in open growth above a dense scrub oak stratum with grassy openings—is, according to the late botanist R. H. Whittaker, found nowhere else on Earth. Moderate 3.5 mile hike.

### May 27, Sunday

**Field Trip: Otter Point (near Gold Beach).** 10:00 am, Gold Beach Ranger District, US Forest Service, 29279 Ellensburg Ave, Gold Beach. Leader: Viva Stansell. Call Don Heinze 541-955-7247 for information. Hopefully we will see several species of coastal wildflowers at their best. We may see large-flowered goldfields (threatened in Oregon) and/or black crowberry (rare in California). For those coming to Gold Beach on Saturday, there are several campgrounds up the Rogue River towards Agness and RV parks on Highway 101. Easy hike above the beach. Recommended prior reading: Begnoche, Don; *Siskiyou Sundays*, pages 67-73, 75-79.

## Umpqua Valley

May 10, Thursday

**Meeting: Beatty Creek ACEC/RNA.** Russ Holmes will talk about the Roseburg BLM land exchange that is intended to expand the Beatty Creek ACEC/RNA. County Courthouse Annex, Roseburg, 7:00 pm. Call Richard Sommer at 541-673-3709 for more information.

May 26, Saturday

**Field Trip: Beatty Creek.** Russ Holmes will lead a trip to Beatty Creek to see *Cypripedium californicum* and other rare plants. Meet in the BLM parking lot at 8:00 am. Call Russ at 541-672-4635 for more information.

## Willamette Valley

May 5, Saturday

**Field Trip: Independence Rock.** See Calypso orchids in an old growth forest on a 2-mile loop trail. Easy to moderate, with some steep pitches. Meet at 8:30 am at the Salem K Mart parking lot on the Mission St. side. Trailhead is 1/8 mile SE of Marion Forks on Forest Service road 2250. No parking fee. Leaders G. & H. Schoppert e-mail ghschopp@hotmail.com or phone 503-859-2613.

May 26-28, Saturday – Monday

**Field Trip: Memorial Day weekend in the Siskiyou** in SW Oregon, a joint trip with Rhododendron Society, Willamette Chapter. We'll meet daily at 8:00 am at Junction Motel in Cave Junction. No signup necessary, just come on day or days you can. Bring lunch and drink. Hope to include one of best bogs in region and other areas not previously visited by Willamette Valley Chapter. Contact leader Wilbur Bluhm, bluhmw1@open.org, or phone 503-393-2934, for more information.

## William Cusick

for information on the William Cusick Chapter call Frazier Nichol at 541-963-7870.

## Cool the Northwest

by Flori Hall

Our planet and its inhabitants stand at a crossroads. Technological advances fueled by ever-increasing use of energy are resulting in a corresponding impact on the environment. The most stark evidence of this impact is global warming and climate change; changes that will have far reaching impacts on entire ecosystems, human health, and the economy in the Northwest and world wide.

Oregon's Office of Energy has concluded global warming could seriously alter the environment of the Northwest. For example, Portland currently averages 10 days a year with temperatures of 90° or above; global warming will increase that to 30 days each year. Global warming will mean more rain in the winter and less snow, increasing flooding in winter and drought conditions in summer. These changes will result in lower stream flows and warm water directly impacting salmon. A warmer climate will make trees more susceptible to pests, disease, and fire damage; it's possible that some forest land will be replaced by grassland. Native plant species could suffer and disappear altogether. But, just as global climate change will have local impacts there are also local solutions.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says the use of fossil fuels—coal, oil and natural gas—to produce energy is the primary source of “greenhouse gas” emissions that cause climate change. In Oregon 40% of greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation and 33% from electric utilities' use of fossil fuels, mainly coal and natural gas, to produce electricity. Current energy shortages, caused by lack of hydro power, are creating pressure to burn even more fossil fuels and to build new fossil fuel plants as fast as possible, with little or no regard for global warming impacts.

Northwest residents can make a difference on the issue of global warming. We can demand that our cities follow the example of Portland and Corvallis and begin developing action plans

for reducing their emissions. We can call for an aggressive effort in increasing the efficient use of energy, such as using natural gas in homes rather than power plants, offering tax credits and rebates for energy efficient appliances. We also need to develop renewable energy sources, such as solar panels on rooftops and wind and geothermal resources where environmentally feasible.

The most immediate solutions are in the hands of individuals. Little things are important, like not letting your car warm up for more than a couple of minutes, and using a bicycle or mass transit whenever possible. Taking advantage of utilities' renewable energy programs can also make a difference; one example is Pacific Power's Blue Sky program. Signing up for programs like Blue Sky sends a strong message to your utility and to policy makers that you really do care how your energy is generated.

While global issues such as climate change may leave us feeling helpless, there are things we can do at home to make a real difference.

For more information contact Eugene Rosolie at Northwest Environmental Advocates by email: erosolie@advocates-nwea.org; voice:503-295-0490, or visit the website at [www.CoolTheNorthwest.org](http://www.CoolTheNorthwest.org).

## New (Old) Books

*Handbook of Northwest Plants* by H Gilkey and Dennis has been fully revised by the surviving author and will be issued by Oregon State University Press this June. Dr. Dennis has updated nomenclature, added species and revised descriptions and keys. The new publication is 512 pages long with many drawings, an illustrated glossary, and index. ISBN: 0-87071-490-2; price \$29.95.



# Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Wisdom

by Gail A. Baker, Emerald Chapter

Just as western medicine practitioners are acknowledging the instructive practices, insights and values of 'alternative' healing methods scientists trained in the European scientific process, specifically ecologists, are beginning to realize that a diversity of ways of thinking about ecology is necessary to address ecological problems. Indigenous peoples bring this diversity to scientific ecological knowledge because they hold a wealth of knowledge about the resources in their environment and how those resources were managed in relation to their cultural practices. This accumulation of knowledge is referred to as Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and maintains distinctions from Scientific Ecological Knowledge (SEK) in important ways although both are dependent on accurate data about the dynamics of natural systems.

According to Fikret Berkes (1993) the following describes general differences between TEK and SEK:

- TEK does not aim to control nature.
- TEK is based on a long-term series of information from one location while SEK uses primarily short-term series over a large area.
- TEK is based on data generated by the resource users themselves, while SEK is conducted by a specialized cadre of researchers.
- TEK is inherently holistic, in contrast to reductionism of SEK.
- TEK has a moral spiritual component, while SEK is "value-free".
- TEK is mainly qualitative, SEK is quantitative.
- TEK is based on empirical observations and direct experience.

TEK is increasingly being recognized as an informative component of land management decisions and policy, and ecosystem restoration research and implementation. Dr. Robin Kimmerer gave a presentation to the Emerald Chapter, in Eugene, about TEK and ecological restoration. One of her research interests is the restoration of culturally significant plants to Native American communities. The following references might be of interest to those desiring to learn more about TEK.

Anonymous. 1999. "Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Another way to create order out of chaos." *NewSource: the Newsletter of the Ecological Society of America* 68:1-7.

Berkes, F. 1993. "Traditional ecological knowledge in perspective." In *Traditional Ecological Knowledge concepts and cases*, ed. J.T.Inglis. Ottawa Canadian Museum of Nature and International Development Research Centre.

Buchman, S. & G.P. Nabhan. 1996. *The forgotten pollinators*. Island Press, WaDC.

*Ecological Applications* a journal published by the Ecological Society of America. Vol. 10(5), October 2000. Invited Feature: Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Ecosystem Science, and Environmental Management. 11 separate articles about TEK.

Nabhan, G.P. 1985. *Gathering the Desert*. University of Arizona Press.

Nabhan, G.P. *Cultural Parallax: the wilderness concept in crisis from Cultures of Habit*



## Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

- The Friends of the Oregon Flora Project will have a display at several of the wildflower shows throughout the state this season. Look for us as you attend these events!
- Our slide presentation on the Flora Project makes an excellent program for your chapter meeting.

Contact Linda Hardison (hardisol@bcc.orst.edu; 541-745-5770) to schedule this informative and wildflower-filled talk for your NPSO chapter, or for other interested organizations.

Contributions to the Oregon Flora Project are always gratefully accepted.

Please make checks payable to: Native Plant Society of Oregon (attention: Friends of the Oregon Flora Project)

and mail to:  
Friends of the Oregon Flora Project  
P. O. Box 402  
Corvallis, OR 97339-0402

### Mount Pisgah Arboretum Events

Seavey Loop Rd., Eugene

**May 5, Saturday, 8-10 am**

**Bird Walk** with Davey Wendt. Meet at the Arboretum visitor center. Suggested donation \$3 (MPA members free)

**May 5, Saturday, 10 am-Noon**

**Wildflower Walk.** Enjoy the beauty of wildflowers in the spring at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum with David Wagner as your guide. Meet at the Arboretum visitor center. Suggested donation \$3 (MPA members free)

**May 5, Saturday, 9 am-3 pm**

**Native Plant Gardening Workshop.** Learn the hows and whys of gardening with native plants. Visit plant communities and sketch a site plan of your own garden under the instruction of Evelyn Hess. Fee: \$35 (\$30 MPA members) Pre-registration required. Call 541-747-1504.

**May 6, Sunday, 1 pm-3:30 pm**

**Wildflower Illustration Workshop.** Discover the fine points and hone your skills of observing and drawing wildflowers with instructor Kris Kirkeby, Guild of Natural Science Illustrators. Fee: \$25 (\$20 MPA members) Pre-registration required. Call 541-747-1504.

**May 12, Saturday, 10 am-Noon**

**Wildflower Walk** Enjoy the beauty of wildflowers in the spring at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum with Lynette Herlan as your guide. Meet at the Arboretum visitor center. Suggested donation \$3 (MPA members free)

**May 12, Saturday, 1 pm-3 pm**

**Reptile & Amphibian Walk** with Tom Titus. Meet at the Arboretum visitor center. Suggested donation \$3.

**May 20, Sunday, 10 am-4 pm**

**Annual Wildflower Festival & Plant Sale.** See below.

### Oregon Scientific Illustrators Explore the Natural World

**April 10–December 23, University of Oregon Museum of Natural History**

See the harmonious union of science and art in *Sight & Insight*, a gallery exhibit, classes, and events by 24 Oregon scientific illustrators (including several NPSO members). These illustrators use scientific observation and technical skill to create fine art for practical purposes. With subjects that range from diaphragmatic hernias to monkey flowers, insect anatomy to oak galls, this series takes a penetrating look at the earth's biological wonders.

All events at UO Museum of Natural History unless otherwise noted. 1680 E. 15th Avenue, Eugene, OR For more information call 541-346-3024 or check out the Museum's web site at <http://natural-history.uoregon.edu>.

### Mount Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Festival

**May 20, Sunday, 10 am–4 pm at Mt Pisgah Arboretum, Eugene**

**Over 350 Plants!** This annual spring festival is centered on a grand array of wild plants collected throughout Lane County. All plants are labeled and experts are on hand to field questions about the identity of unknown plants. The display tables have included over 300 species of live plants and photographs of rare plants.

**Plant Relationships: Carnivory & Parasitism!** Highlighting this year's festival will be a display showing relationships among plants and between plants and other organisms. Carnivorous and parasitic plants are of special interest but the display will not be restricted to those relationships.

**It Takes Three.** *Allotropa virgata* a

mycotrophic plant in the Ericaceae, the Heath or Rhododendron family will be featured on the poster this year because it depends on not one, but **two** other partners!

New this year, accompany a knowledgeable botanist around the display as they regale you with plant stories. Popular continuing attractions include plant sale, medicinal and poisonous plant exhibit, interpretive nature walks, information and food booths, children's activities and music.

Directions to Mt. Pisgah can be found on their web site at [www.efn.org/~mtpisgah](http://www.efn.org/~mtpisgah). Admission to the Wildflower Festival will be \$3 for an individual and \$6 for a family.



*Candy Stick, Allotropa virgata*

ILLUSTRATION BY TANYA HARVEY

## Oregon's Bay Area Wildflower Festival May 10-13

Celebrating Natures Gardens' is the theme for the Wildflower Festival that will be held in Coos Bay/North Bend on May 10-13.

Among the many events will be presentations on Native Wildflowers, Real and Imposters; Using Natives in the Garden; Native Plant Folklore; Flowers of Siskiyou; and Incorporating Wildflowers in the Garden.

There will also be a workshop on Plant Identification, a chance to visit the new demonstration Wildflower Garden developed at the Shore Acres Gardens by George Guthrie and a Mothers Day walk at the Shore Acres Gardens.

Several field trips are scheduled for Saturday. These include trips to Salt Marsh Walk at South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, Golden and Silver Falls and a Dunes trip connected to the Plant Identification Workshop.

The festival is free. Brochures will be available at the public libraries and more information is available by writing to CCIL, PO Box 814, Coos Bay OR 97420 or by calling Jan Newlander at 541-759-3636.

## Siskiyou Field Institute

Don't forget! June 15-22 and July 20-22 the Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI) will offer numerous field courses and workshops, which focus on the botanical wonders of the Klamath-Siskiyou Region (see March *Bulletin* for more details). To receive information on course descriptions and other events contact the Siskiyou Field Institute at PO Box 220, Cave Junction, OR 97523; 541-592-4459; email: [institute@siskiyou.org](mailto:institute@siskiyou.org); or check out their website at [www.siskiyou.org](http://www.siskiyou.org).

## Leach Botanical Garden Events

6704 SE 122nd Ave., Portland

### The Diversity of Oregon Native Plants

**April 28, Saturday, 9 – 10:30 am**

Learn about the different habitats of Oregon and the diverse groups of native plants they support. Includes an update on the Oregon Flora Project. Instructor: Henrietta Chambers, co-author of *Wildflowers of the West Cascades* and volunteer on the Oregon Flora Project. Fee: \$13.50M/\$15NM

### Form and Function of Wetlands

**May 5, Saturday, 9 – 11 am**

Introduction to the functions, values and characteristic plants of wetland areas. Instructor: Brent Davis, Clark County Wetland Biologist. Fee: \$13.50M/\$15NM

### Walk in the Woods – Mosses, Liverworts and Hornworts

**May 19, Saturday, 9am – Noon**

Explore the myriad of habitats occupied by the bryophytes. Dress for the weather as we walk through the garden looking for examples. Instructor: Judy Harpel, PhD bryologist. Fee: \$18M/\$20NM Class Limit: 15

### All About Penstemons

**June 2, Saturday, 9 – 11 am**

An introduction to this popular and fascinating group of plants plus a walk through the Garden's penstemon collection. A variety of hard-to-find penstemons will be for sale. Instructor: Ginny Maffit, penstemon enthusiast and grower. Fee: \$13.50M/\$15M Class Limit: 20

## Berry Botanic Garden Events

*Portland's Berry Botanic Garden has a number of native plant oriented events. To register or to get more information on these and other events at the garden call 503-636-4112 or check out their website at <http://www.berrybot.org>.*

### May 3, Thursday, 10 am-Noon Bees, Beetles, Butterflies and Birds Pollination Biology

Close observations of flowers and the animals that visit them will be made. Instructor: Carolyn Devine. \$8 (\$5 Members).

### May 3, Thursday, 1 pm Geology and Botany of Camassia

Hike with Carolyn Devine and geologist Dick Thoms to learn about geology and unique flora of Camassia Nature area. \$8 (\$5 Members). Limit 10.

### May 10, Thursday, 10 am-Noon The Dance of the Genes

You don't need to be a scientist to appreciate the amazing orchestration of flower development. Instructor: Carolyn Devine. \$8 (\$5 Members).

### May 12, Saturday, 10 am-Noon Your Portland Area Butterfly Garden

Join Eric Wold, President of the North American Butterfly Association's Eugene-Springfield Chapter to learn about butterfly gardening, from which species you are most likely to attract to your Portland-area home, to the key components of butterfly habitat. Find out how butterflies are not too different from people! Dress for the outdoors, we plan on going outside to explore The Berry Garden's own butterfly garden. Eric Wold/Bruce Newhouse. \$15 (\$10 Members) Limit: 25.

### May 31, Thursday Saddle Mountain Hike

Fairly strenuous 6-mile round trip hike with Carolyn Devine and Kris Freitag to see this botanically rich area with great views of the Coast Range and the ocean at the mouth of the Columbia River. \$8 (\$5 Members). Limit 15.

## The Return of a Wet Prairie

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natural successional processes began that soon changed the appearance of the entire landscape. What had been vast prairies and savannas, quickly began to grow up into shrubs and then into forests.

These changes and impacts taken together—the cessation of the prairie burns, the alteration of hydrological processes, and the logging of riparian forests—have resulted in the near elimination of many native plant communities of the pre-settlement valley.

The Deer Creek wet prairie was used as pasture for livestock and for hay production. To make it produce annual crops such as barley, ditches were constructed along the edges of the parcel, and it was plowed into a series of raised berms and drainage channels. Still, the persistent wet soil conditions continued to make the site difficult to farm, and was last farmed in the 1950s.

In March 1962, the six-acre parcel along the creek that would become Deer Creek County Park, was acquired by Yamhill County from Cecil and Dolores Gross. The county purchased the adjacent 23-acre parcel in July 1978. Over the following years it was used for a variety of recreational activities while the Yamhill County Park and Recreation Board considered various options for development of the new parcel.

At the request of the park board, a site assessment was conducted by Rob Tracey and Allen Makinson of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Their identification of an extensive stand of tufted hairgrass, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, led Karen Sturgeon—a professor in the Biology Department at Linfield College who

was serving on the park board at that time—to invite John Christy, wetlands ecologist for The Nature Conservancy (TNC), to visit the site. In December 1992, after observing this wetland community, Christy declared the site to be one of the largest areas of wet prairie in the northern Willamette Valley. Once the park board recognized the value of this unique wetland, it was clear that the site was not suitable for a camping facility, and they began to inquire how best to conserve it.

Recognizing the educational value of the wet prairie, Dr. Sturgeon began using the park as an outdoor research laboratory for her students. In the spring of 1993, Dr. Sturgeon's systematic botany class began a study of the flora of Deer Creek Park and discovered a small colony of a rare, dry-prairie species *Lupinus sulphureus kincaidii* (Kincaid's lupine) located in the upland portion of the prairie.

This lupine is a relict species from the ice age endemic to the Willamette Valley and is the host plant for the Fender's blue butterfly, *Icaricia icarioides fenderi*. The butterfly lay its eggs under the leaves in the spring. These hatch into caterpillars who feed solely on the flowers of this lupine. The butterfly and the lupine have been listed as federal endangered and threatened species, respectively.

After leaving the park board, Dr. Sturgeon has continued her involvement with Deer Creek Park through the on-going research of her students and her role in developing restoration plans for the park.

### A Prescribed Burn

In January 1998, a proposal was brought before the park board to conduct a prescribed burn to help restore

the native plant community in both the wet prairie, and the upland or dry prairie. The park board endorsed the proposal, as did the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners.

The park board then held a planning meeting in April 1998 to gather information about restoration of wetlands, prescription burns, and response to fire of native plant species. Representatives were invited from Linfield College, TNC, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the NRCS, the Yamhill Basin Council, OSU Extension Service and others. A plan was then developed to conduct a prescribed burn in the wet prairie in September or early October of 1998. The primary objectives of the burn plan were to enhance and invigorate the native species, and to suppress both the native woody vegetation and the exotic species (primarily teasel) that were invading the wet prairie.

Andy Robinson, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, told the park board that fall burning of Kincaid's lupine has been shown to result in increased flower production the following spring, increasing the available habitat for Fender's blue butterflies. Here in the Willamette Valley, prescribed burns are increasingly being utilized for the restoration of many prairie and wetland sites on public lands. Research being conducted throughout the United States is indicating that fire is an essential component for maintaining the life histories of many plant and animal species.

In July 1998, Warren Villa, a fire management specialist with BLM, responded to the park board's request for assistance and visited the site to make an assessment prior to developing a

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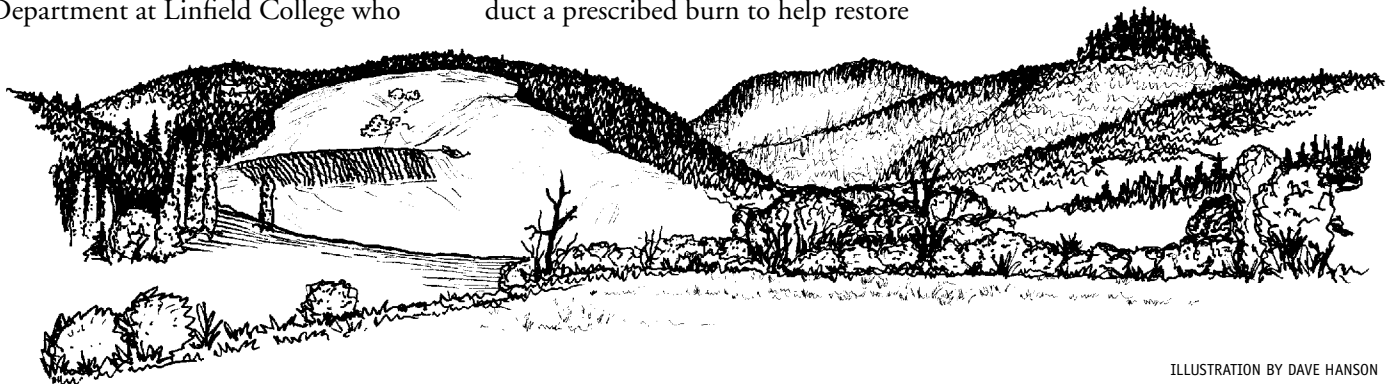


ILLUSTRATION BY DAVE HANSON

burn plan. BLM and Yamhill County then developed a cooperative agreement whereby BLM would supply the fire crew and engines, and conduct the burn. In late August, following the recommendation from BLM, work-release crews from the Yamhill County Corrections Department mowed the drier portions of the planned burn area in the wet prairie. Mowing the vegetation rearranges the standing fuel, concentrating it closer to the ground where it carries fire better, and also allowing the mowed vegetation to dry—all producing a hotter and more effective burn.

### **Fire returns to the prairie after 150 years**

Burn day arrived on September 24, a beautiful fall morning with clear blue skies overhead. BLM arrived at the site with five engines and a crew of about twelve. Warren Villa, the fire-boss for the project, expected that the conditions might be right for ignition at about 11:00 am. However, the morning fog in Gopher Valley hung around longer than expected and the burn didn't get underway until 1:30 pm. Most of the burn area was accessible to the BLM's small engines which made the burn very easy to control. One of the engines drove out into the prairie to lay down a foam fire-break around the perimeter, while the other parked outside of the burn unit for contingency. Then the six-man lighting crew began igniting the fire-line using drip-torches that dispensed a mixture of diesel and gasoline. They ignited strips while walking cross-wind, creating a backing fire that burns into the light wind. As the fire began creeping across the wet prairie, the flames seldom were more than two or three feet above the ground. In a few places where the fire got into heavier fuels, the crackling flames flared up, leaping to six feet or more. The dense smoke rose vertically and quickly dispersed high in the atmosphere. Within an hour the fire had crossed the field and subsided into just a few lingering wisps of smoke.

### **Post-fire Reconnaissance**

The fire reduced the field to a blackened plain. It also revealed topo-

graphical features that the vegetation had obscured, which has led to a better understanding of the hydrological patterns of the site.

According to local residents, the farmers had consistently plowed the field into a series of raised berms, to contend with the persistent wet conditions of the site. These run parallel with the slope, and are about twenty to fifty feet wide. This plowing created channels between the berms facilitating the drainage of water off the field. These relict berms are quite visible in the prairie and are generally dominated by the exotic species teasel (*Dipsacus sylvestris*) and velvet-grass (*Holcus lanatus*) while the wetter drainage channels tend to be dominated by native species. This pattern of species associated with specific hydrological conditions, suggests that some modification of these berms may enhance the recovery of the wet prairie community.

For many years now, landowners have been systematically removing beaver dams from Cronin Creek which runs through the north part of the park. As it happened, in 1983 there was a change of ownership of the adjacent parcel to the north of the park. The new landowner allowed the beaver dams to exist, even though they keep the field wet and unsuitable for farming. For the last fifteen years, the beaver dams in Cronin Creek have been persistently backing up water behind the dam which then flows around the dam and across the wet prairie. This year-round flow created and maintained by beavers is the most significant factor enhancing the return of the native wetland species. One of the finest examples of a tufted hairgrass prairie in our region is thriving in this shallow running water, with some of the flowering stems reaching to a height of six feet.

Another very interesting feature that became apparent after the vegetation was burned away was a widespread pattern of parallel grooves throughout the prairie. The consistent pattern of the tracks suggested that they were old ruts formed years ago by a tractor mowing the field in the spring while the ground was still very wet. The first

reaction to seeing these deep ruts was that it was an unfortunate impact to the site; however upon closer examination, well-developed clumps of *Deschampsia* appearing to be fifteen to twenty years old were found growing in the bottoms of these ruts. Shallow water collecting in these depressions created micro-wetland habitats that favored the establishment of tufted hairgrass, while the area directly adjacent remained dominated by introduced species of grasses.

This is a dramatic example of the often unpredictable consequences of human actions; in this case accidental but favorable, and resulting in a substantial increase in the population of tufted hairgrass throughout the prairie. Since farming ceased in the 1950s, the cumulative effect of these small-scale events has to some degree re-established hydrological conditions more favorable to native species. The importance of hydrology in ecosystems is well demonstrated by the response of species to the conditions within the tractor ruts, the raised berms, and the year-round flow diverted by the beaver from Cronin Creek.

Deer Creek Park has a great educational potential, with opportunities for ecological research in passive and active restoration, prescribed burns, native plant and wildlife study. The Yamhill County Park and Recreation Board is applying for grants to fund future restoration work in the wet prairie, the riparian area, and in the stream channel. A kiosk to display information about the park such as history of the site and the native ecosystems was constructed in 1999. The park board is developing long-range plans that include the development of an interpretive nature trail throughout the park and a large covered structure for group activities.

A story of geological, cultural, and natural history is recorded in this wet prairie in Gopher Valley, making Deer Creek Park important to our region. It is a priceless natural heritage demonstrating the ecological functions of wetlands, floodplains, and watersheds, and hopefully will lead to increased public awareness and appreciation of these vital processes.

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

1/8/2001 to 4/10/2001

## Cheahmill

William H. Beckett  
Lynn Crowell  
Shirley Fisher-Milbradt  
David Graham

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Dan Bregar  
James V. Conklin  
Denise Diermeier  
Jim & Karan Fairchild  
Jennifer Goodridge  
Genny Lynch  
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Heather Whittle

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Karin Leson  
John & Helen Ost  
Tom Phillips  
Craig Six  
Lori Valentine

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Julie LeDoux  
Lori & William Ritter  
Tanya A. Rivers

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R Sherman Lehman  
Linda Storm  
Nan Story

## NPSO Items for Sale

The "Atlas of Oregon Carex" was NPSO's first Occasional Paper. The Atlas has 128 location maps, one for each Carex taxon in the state of Oregon. Also included are a synonymy, fun facts about sedges, a history of the project, and Oregon geography maps. **Price: \$5.**

"Louis F. Henderson (1853-1942): The Grand Old Man of Northwest Botany" is NPSO's second and most recent Occasional Paper, published in 2001. This fascinating, peer-reviewed, 64-page biography includes 56 historic and modern images. It is carefully and exhaustively researched with 133 notes plus chronology, lists of publications and plants named for Henderson. **Price: \$10.**

To order either or both Occasional Papers, send check for the appropriate amount (made payable to NPSO) to: **Occasional Papers, Native Plant Society of Oregon, PO Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440-0902.**

**Oregon's Rare Wildflower Poster** depicts Punchbowl Falls and three of the Columbia River Gorge's endemic wildflowers. Text on the back describes the natural history of the Gorge and the mission of the NPSO. Available from Stu Garrett, 21663 Paloma Drive, Bend, OR 97701, 541-389-6981. Individuals may order posters at \$12 each, plus \$3 per order for shipping. Posters are mailed in tubes. Chapter treasurers may contact Stu for wholesale prices to chapters.

**NPSO's Original Wildflower Poster** depicts 13 Oregon wildflowers in a striking artist's rendition. Soon to be a collector's item. Available from Stephanie Schulz, 84603 Bristow Rd., Pleasant Hill, OR 97455, \$5 each, plus \$3 per order for shipping. Posters are mailed in tubes.

# NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Chapter (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

DUES include monthly *Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis* when published.  
 Membership is for the calendar year. New memberships enrolled after  
 September 1 include the following year.

- New                       Renewal  
 Student – \$12       Regular – \$18       Family – \$24  
 Sustaining – \$50       Patron – \$100       Life Membership – \$500  
 Subscription Only (*Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis*) – \$18 *Only for those who wish to subscribe, but do not want to have full membership status.*

Is this a change of address? If so, please write your old address here:

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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CONTRIBUTIONS to NPSO are tax deductible.

Jean Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ _____
Leighton Ho Memorial Field Botany Award Fund	\$ _____
Rare and Endangered Plant Fund	\$ _____
Friends of the Oregon Flora Project	\$ _____

Please make checks for dues and contributions payable to:  
 NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON

Send completed form and full remittance to:  
**Jan Dobak, NPSO Membership Chair**  
 2584 NW Savier St.  
 Portland, OR 97210-2412

*Membership in the Native Plant Society of Oregon is open to all.*  
 Membership applications, renewals and change of address (include old address) should be sent to the Membership Chair.

## OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### STATE OFFICERS

DIRECTORS (to 6/2001) .....	Dave Dobak, Esther McEvoy, Veva Stansell	(to 6/2002) .....	Karl Anderson, Dan Luoma, Danna Lytjen
PRESIDENT .....	Bruce Newhouse	2525 Potter, Eugene, OR 97405;	541-343-2364
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT .....	Michael Igo	PO Box 603 Mosier, OR 97040	
VICE PRESIDENT .....	Michael McKeag	7461 SW 184th Pl., Aloha, OR 97007-5740;	503-642-3965
SECRETARY .....	Rhoda Love	393 Fulvue Drive, Eugene, OR 97405;	541-345-6241
TREASURER .....	Eric Wold	2055 Shiloh Street Eugene, OR 97401-7237;	541-431-7388

### CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

BLUE MOUNTAIN (Pendleton) .....	Jerry Baker	58840 Bar M Lane, Adams, OR 97810-3003;	541-566-3381
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CORVALLIS .....	Esther McEvoy	3290 SW Willamette Ave., Corvallis, Oregon 97333;	541-754-0893
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## NPSO 2001 Annual Meeting Schedule, June 8, 9, and 10, Corvallis

*Reminder: The Cost for registration doubles after May 9th! Please send in your registration form today. A map will appear in the next Bulletin and will be available on the NPSO Website.*

### Friday June 8

#### Afternoon Activities:

1. Field trip possible if interest shown on the registration form.
2. Afternoon Tea with Linda Hardison: An Open House at the OSU Herbarium to learn more about the Oregon Flora Project from 3pm to 5pm, come to Cordley Hall Room 1040.

#### Evening Social

Place: Autzen House (Center for Humanities), 811 SW Jefferson

Time: 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Events: Registration packets available, Slide show by Loren Russell "Alpines of Oregon" and more. Refreshments available.

### Saturday June 9

#### Field Trips

Place: Meet at the parking lot behind the Courtyard Inn, 2435 NW Harrison Blvd., Corvallis

Time: 8:30 am for field trips, departure around 9:00 am.

Details: Registration packets available for those who did not pick them up on Friday night. Pick up sack lunches for those who registered for them. Carpool from the parking lot.

#### Evening Banquet

Place: Courtyard Inn, 2435 NW Harrison Blvd., Corvallis

Time: 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm

Details: Social time with no host bar,

classical music and displays followed by the banquet with speaker Dr. Boone Kaufmann, "Ecological approaches to restoration of native ecosystems (Oregon)."

### Sunday June 10

#### NPSO State Board Meeting

Place: East Conference Room of Marketplace West (aka West Dining Hall), Oregon State University.

Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Other Activities:** Tour of the Avery House Native Plant Garden with Carolyn Ver Linden.

Place: Avery House, Avery Park. Also field trip possible if interest shown on the registration form.