



Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 34, No. 10

40TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

NOVEMBER 2001

Exciting News from the Oregon Flora Project

by Scott Sundberg and Linda Hardison

The Oregon Flora Project has exciting news! Three new grants, along with continuing support from NPSO and individual donors, are allowing us to embark on work in new directions while accelerating efforts on the Atlas and Oregon Vascular Plant Checklist.

The Friends of the Oregon Flora Project has been awarded a \$13,600 grant from Willamette Industries, Inc.

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Summer Intern Report

Fire in the Dry Meadows of the Western Cascades

by Lauren Spaderna, NPSO/IAE Intern

The following is the second in a series of four articles in which NPSO/Institute for Applied Ecology interns discuss their activities during the 2001 field season. Interns participated in monitoring, restoration and other research projects conducted by IAE staff throughout Oregon during the summer of 2001. The projects were focused primarily on threatened and endangered plant species in eastern Oregon, the Siskiyou, coastal areas, the Cascades, and the Willamette Valley. In this article, Lauren Spaderna describes a project in the western Cascades aimed at measuring the relative effects of controlled burns on native and non-native plants in mid-elevation dry meadows. Internships are jointly funded by NPSO, IAE, and federal dollars. For more information on this internship opportunity, please contact IAE at kayet@peak.org or 541-753-3099.

Thanks again to NPSO for contributing to botanical education and work experience.

Tom Kaye, Institute for Applied Ecology, Corvallis, Oregon

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I began my summer internship with the Native Plant Society of Oregon and the Institute for Applied Ecology in late May. I recently graduated from the University of Connecticut with a degree in Natural Resource Management and was excited to move to Oregon and get involved with conservation hands-on. Being a native of Connecticut and new to the West, I was unfamiliar with much of the flora of Oregon and excited to learn about the vegetation here and get out into the field.

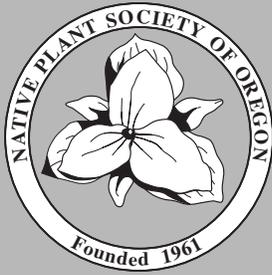
Returning fire to the meadows

The first project I worked on was in the Cottage Grove Ranger District of the Umpqua National Forest. The Institute for Applied Ecology is cooperating with the U.S. Forest Service to document the effects of prescribed fire on dry meadows, and we worked this year at two sites called Layng and Harvey. These meadows occur at middle

elevations (2000-4000 feet) and host a diversity of grass and forb species, many of which are annual plants. The purpose of the project is to reintroduce fire to the ecosystems of these meadows to reduce fuels for wildfires and benefit native vegetation. These meadows occur in an area where fire once occurred naturally every one to three decades, most likely by lightning and Native American use, but has been suppressed for the last 100 years.

The influence of reintroducing fire to these meadows has many possible beneficial outcomes. It might release native seed banks, increase the vigor of native plants, reduce non-native plant populations, improve wildlife habitat, and slow the intrusion of trees and shrubs. However, the impact of fire on invasive non-native species is of particular concern, because burning might benefit some of them instead of just the native plants, thus worsening the

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Native Plant Society of Oregon

World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

E-mail Discussion List

To join send a message to majordomo@tardigrade.net, with the following in the body of the message: subscribe npsoc

General Business Address

P.O. Box 902
Eugene, OR 97440

or correspond directly with Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside of the back page.

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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.

Occasional Paper Two, *Life of Henderson*, Earns Profit for NPSO

As of this writing, NPSO's second Occasional Paper on the life of Northwest botanist Louis Henderson, has brought in a profit of over a thousand dollars for the Native Plant Society. Sales have been brisk since the paper was published last February, and it appears that the initial press run may sell out by the end of this year. If you have been waiting to order yours, or would like to give one to a friend for the holidays, or make a gift to your favorite library or research institution, it would be wise to place your order soon to be sure of receiving a copy.

All books ordered between now and Christmas will be autographed by Rhoda Love and will include as an extra bonus, a 10-page annotated bibliography of references consulted during the research into Henderson's long and fascinating life. To order your copy send a \$10 check, made out to NPSO, to Occasional Papers, Native Plant Society of Oregon, PO Box 902, Eugene, Oregon 97440-0902. Many thanks.

Request for *Kalmiopsis* Advertising Manager

Now that *Kalmiopsis* is back on a regular annual schedule, NPSO would like to sell advertising in its pages to help offset some of the journal costs. The Advertising Manager will be a volunteer role, which will entail working with co-editors Cindy Roché and Linda Vorobik and the NPSO state Treasurer to develop standards and prices, then soliciting ads from businesses such as native plant nurseries and bookstores that feature botany and natural history merchandise. Most of these contacts can be made by mail or e-mail.

If you would like to try your creative skills in public relations and sales, here is a great opportunity to help NPSO. For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

Cindy Roché
109 Meadow View Drive
Medford, OR 97504
crupinaqueen@home.com



Grass-of-Parnassus, *Parnassia fimbriata*, is a late-blooming member of the family Saxifragaceae. It grows in mountain bogs and wet meadows. Willamette National Forest near Oakridge.

TANYA HARVEY

State

January 19, 2002, Saturday

Board Meeting: The next State Board meeting—our all-important budget meeting—will take place in McMinnville, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. All Board members are urged to attend.

June 7–9, 2002, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Annual Meeting: Siskiyou Chapter will host the meeting at the Green Springs Inn on Highway 66 twenty miles east of Ashland. Watch for information on our web site and registration materials in the *Bulletin*.

Blue Mountain

November 5, Monday

Meeting: Adventures in Surveying; or How I Spent my Summer Vacation.

Jerry Baker will show slides and talk about his work this year doing bird and plant surveys. 7:00 pm, Small Business Development Center, SE 1st and SE Dorian, Pendleton.

December 3, Monday

Meeting: BMCC Botany. Jan Acsai, botany instructor at Blue Mountain Community College, will discuss the botany program at the college. 7:00 pm, Small Business Development Center, SE 1st and SE Dorian, Pendleton.

Cheahmill

November 29, Thursday

Meeting: Butterfly Gardening in the Willamette Valley. Bruce Newhouse, State NPSO President and Eric Wold, NPSO Treasurer will give a slide presentation and talk examining the ecology of the the Willamette Valley's more common butterfly species. Note: The meeting is on the 5th Thursday this month. 7:00 pm, Carnegie Room McMinnville Public Library, 225 N. Adams St., McMinnville. For more

info contact Susan Williams at 503-538-1865 or helgesusan@home.com.

Corvallis

November, TBA

Work Parties: Avery House Native Plant Garden. Contact Carolyn Ver Linden at 541-752-7132 if you are interested in helping with weeding, planting and fall cleanup.

November 12, Monday

Meeting: Restoration of Endangered Plant Species in Willamette Valley Prairies. Tom Kaye will present a slide

show and talk about restoration of our vanishing native prairies at 7:30 pm in the Avery House, Avery Park, Corvallis.

December 10, Monday

Event: Annual Holiday Slide show and Dessert Potluck at 7:00 pm at the Avery House at Avery Park. Bring about 20 slides to share and a dessert and any show and tell.

January 14, Monday

Meeting: The most fiendish plant I know: Botanizing in Corsica. Loren Russell will give us an exotic slide show on his travels in Corsica at 7:30 pm at the Avery House, Avery Park, Corvallis.

Emerald

November 26, Monday

Meeting: The Oregon Flora Project: a New Botanical Resource for our State by Dr. Linda Hardison, Chair of the Friends of the Oregon Flora Project. Linda uses beautiful, informative images to give an overview of this very important endeavor. She'll cover the three main facets of the Project and let us know how individuals can help. Linda has degrees in botany and marine biology (U. Texas), a Ph.D. in botany (U. Washington) and did post-doctoral research (OSU) in molecular plant-pathogen interactions. 7:30 pm, Room 117, Science Building, LCC main campus (from 30th Ave., go south on Eldon Schafer Drive, park in the parking lot at the top of the hill, and walk down to the Science Building). For more information, contact Marcia Cutler 541-687-2559.

December 10, Monday

Meeting: Our annual holiday gathering/"do-it-ourselves slide show". Carolyn and Michael Hartman have graciously volunteered their lovely home in the hills near Hendricks Park. If you wish, bring 5-10 slides and some snacks to share. Your chapter will provide beverages (including hot apple

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.

cider!). Come admire others' slides if you don't have your own! NOTE: CHANGE FROM USUAL LOCATION FOR THIS MEETING ONLY! 7:30 pm, 1918 Fircrest Dr., Eugene.

January 28, Monday

Meeting: Exploring the Jungles of the Yucatan, by Allen Curtis. Exotic plants and tropical environments! More details in later issues of the *Bulletin*. 7:30 pm, Room 117, Science Building, LCC main campus.

High Desert

For information on the High Desert Chapter, call Stu Garrett at 541-389-6981.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia

November 7, Wednesday

Meeting: Mushrooms and other Fungi. We are pleased to have Dr. Dan Luoma of Corvallis give us a slide presentation on his speciality. 7:30 pm at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles. (exit 82 off I-84, and follow signs.)

November 10, Saturday

Field Trip: Look for Fall mushrooms and other fungi with Caitlin Cray. Meet at the Troutlake Ranger Station at 10:00 am. For more information, call Barbara Robinson at 541-296-5334.

December 5, Wednesday

Meeting: The Oregon Flora Project. Linda Hardison will tell us about the Oregon Flora Project and how it is progressing, and show us some beautiful wildflower slides. 7:30 pm at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles. (exit 82 off I-84, and follow signs.)

North Coast

November, TBA

Event: Banquet at Hudson House.

Meet at the Hudson House on the west side of Hwy. 101 between Cloverdale and Oretown. An outstanding meal will be served. There will be alternate vegetarian and sugar-free menus for those who request it in advance. Bring slides to share. All those who have given John Gerke a functional e-mail address will be notified of the date and time. For more details or if you plan to attend, contact John at 541-842-5366 or johnroyal@juno.com. We will need to have an exact count several days in advance of the meal.

Portland

November 13, Tuesday

Meeting: Mushrooms. Maggie Rogers will give an exciting presentation on mushrooms. 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.

Siskiyou

November 15, Thursday

Meeting: Botanical Collections from Ecuador, Tom Delinks and Clint Emerson from the Umpqua National Forest will present a slide show on their botanical explorations in Ecuador. To

document the incredible diversity of the rain forest, they collected lichens, bryophytes, fungi, and vascular plants. Among their collections are the discovery of several new species in the Araceae or Arum family. The only representative of this family in western U.S. is skunk cabbage, *Lysichiton americanum*. 7:30 pm in Room 171 of SOU Science Building in Ashland. For more info call Molly Sullivan at 541-770-7933.

Umpqua Valley

For information on the William Cusick Chapter call Jack Hausotter at 541-863-5347.

Willamette Valley

November 19, Monday

Meeting: Northwest Native Plants for Your Garden, a presentation by Wilbur Bluhm, longtime member of our chapter. Mr. Bluhm is a former OSU Extension Horticulturist, and an expert on gardening with native plants. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm, in room 225 of the First United Methodist Church, 600 State Street, Salem. Please enter through the door marked "Church Office." Call Karl Anderson, 503-315-7329, for more information.

William Cusick

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

Friends of the Oregon Flora Project



The Oregon Flora Project gratefully appreciates your support.

Your checks for the Flora Project can be made out to NPSO (with "Oregon Flora Project" on the memo line) and mailed to:

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

Mount Pisgah Arboretum Events

Seavey Loop Rd., Eugene

November 3, Saturday, 10am-Noon
Mushrooms in the Field. Join members of the Cascade Mycological Society for a stroll through Mount Pisgah Arboretum's forests in search of mushrooms. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Suggested donation \$3. For more information call 541-747-1504.

November 3, Saturday, 10am-Noon
November 17, 10am-Noon

Fall Ecology Walk. Kick up some leaves and explore the change of seasons with Arboretum Nature Guide Harold Schyberg. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Suggested donation \$3. Call 541-747-1504.

November 4, Sunday, 10am – 3 pm

Pine Needle Basketry Workshop. Devote your day to learning the traditional art of pine needle basketry. Learn history, techniques, and skills for creating your own beautiful basket with instructor, Pam Roberts. Fee: \$30

(\$25 MPA members). Pre-registration required. Call 541-747-1504.

November 10-11, Saturday-Sunday
10 am – 4 pm

Mushrooming Workshop. This intensive class for beginning 'shroomers offers instruction on picking, cooking, ecology, folklore, and more! Maggie Rogers leads the class with slide shows, discussion, and field identification. Fee: \$60 (\$50 MPA members). Pre-registration required. Call 541-747-1504.

December 8, Saturday, 1-3pm

Evergreen Wreathmaking Workshop. Douglas-fir, noble fir, juniper, spruce, pine cones, and a big bow... sounds like a gorgeous evergreen wreath! Make one yourself at this annual fundraiser for the Arboretum's Education Program taught by Ken Gillespie, an enthusiastic local florist. Fee: \$30. Pre-registration required. Call 541-747-1504.

Northwestern California Rare Plant Symposium

February 6-8, 2002

Northwestern California supports an extensive flora of rare plant species. Currently, much of the information concerning rare plants rests with local botanists or regional specialists.

On February 6-8, 2002, the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) presents a symposium on The Ecology and Management of Rare Plants in Northwestern California.

Topics will include autecology and life history of rare plant species, survey and monitoring techniques, and conservation strategies. The conference will offer perspectives on new research

and findings as well as illustrate examples of successful programs, approaches, and case studies. It will also provide an opportunity for biologists, natural resource professionals, planners, and policy-makers in northwestern California and southwestern Oregon to share their knowledge and concerns about rare plant issues.

The North Coast Chapter invites the general public and interested participants of all disciplines to attend.

For more information and a registration form, please visit the North Coast Chapter's website at: www.north-coast.com/~cnps.

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>.

October 29–November 26
Mondays, 11:30 am – 1 pm

Botany for Gardeners. If your enjoyment of gardening has led to questions about the science behind the methods, then this class is for you! Each class will start with a short indoor discussion and then will either move outside for a tour or continue indoors for a hands-on experience with plants. Register for one or all, we will provide beverages, dessert, and supplies (textbook available for purchase). Carolyn Devine, \$8 (\$5, Members) each, all 5: \$32 (\$20 Members).

The Courses: Seed Science, Monday, 10/29/01; Roots and Shoots, Monday, 11/5/01; Designs For Survival, Monday, 11/12/01; Keeping it Under Control, Monday, 11/19/01; Passion in the Garden: From Flowers to Fruit, Monday, 11/26/01

November 4, Sunday, 1 pm – 5 pm

Naturescaping for Clean Rivers. Naturescaping features native plants, natural landscapes, and water-friendly gardening practices. The results are: less water, fewer chemicals, and less maintenance. These directly benefit you, your garden, and the environment. On top of that, you'll attract beneficial wildlife. Each participant receives a free workbook and native plant to take home. Rain or shine, we'll be going outside to study plants along Berry's Native Plant Trail. Sponsored by and registration through, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services and East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District. Free, advance registration required. To register, call 503-797-1842 or e-mail naturescaping@yahoo.com.

Exciting News from the Oregon Flora Project

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Funds will be donated, via NPSO, to the Flora project and will be used to write a prototype of a rare plant guide. The guide will be composed of loose-leaf “fact sheets” on rare plants. Each fact sheet will have photographs, illustrations, descriptions, a distribution map, and identification hints. The prototype will include 20 fact sheets, along with introductory text and an illustrated glossary.

The Project has also recently received a grant of \$175,000 from the Bureau of Land Management to document plant species, subspecies and varieties in Oregon counties. The overall focus of the BLM program is on the promotion of native plant materials in ecological restoration projects; our work will provide lists plants that are native to each county. We will conduct a thorough inventory of plant specimens in Oregon and review hundreds of botanical references. A side benefit of the work is that the Flora project will compile a database of thousands of plant localities for all Oregon species which will greatly enhance the value of our plant Atlas. We wish to thank Keli Kuykendall, who played a crucial role in obtaining this support.

Finally, the Project has been awarded a 3-year, \$688,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for a project entitled “Personal Digital Field Guides: Mobile Access to Comprehensive Regional Flora.” The PDFG project is a collaboration between the Flora Project and the Northwest Alliance for Computational Science and Engineering, at Oregon State University. The grant will pay for design and software development for the online version of the *Flora of Oregon*. It will support several computer programmers and a portion of the OFP Coordinator’s salary for the next three years. The digital Flora will include identification keys, photographs, illustrations, species descriptions, mapping capabilities, and much more.

The primary focus of the grant is research in computer science. The

central and most challenging aspect of the project is to design the system to allow users to download portions of the Flora to their own computer or personal digital assistant (e.g., Palm Pilot). These “Personal Digital Field Guides” can then be tailored to one’s specific needs. A broad range of users, including nature lovers, scientists, students, and decision makers, will be able to personalize the way they navigate through the Flora, selecting the amount and type of information presented as well as how and when it will be accessed.

Some examples of PDFG’s applications might include:

- a flora of species likely to be found in a particular county, BLM district, or USFS forest
- a flora of the ferns of Oregon
- technical details and identification hints on Oregon’s noxious weeds or rare plants
- an atlas of Oregon penstemons

The scope of work for all of these grants will greatly speed the completion of the new *Flora of Oregon*. All of the data gathered and virtually all of the work accomplished can be applied toward the final versions of the Flora and Atlas. These three grants represent

a wonderful influx of funds to pay for progress in several directions. However, there are still many aspects of the Flora Project that do not receive targeted support; these will be the objects of our continued, long-term fundraising efforts.

As a consequence of the recent grant awards, the Flora Project is hiring new personnel. Twelve undergraduate students started working on the project in early October. We are posting job announcements for two full-time staff members to manage Atlas and Flora databases. We also hope to involve specialists to assist in a number of areas, perhaps including photography, fundraising, volunteer coordination, and biogeographical and library research. The Friends of the Oregon Flora Project is also pleased to welcome Thea Cook of Eugene as a new committee member. The Flora project is entering a new phase, and volunteers are needed to help with a number of tasks.

Without the early and constant support of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, the Oregon Flora Project would have been unable to competitively apply for these federal and private funds. Thank you for your support!



TANYA HARVEY

Close to last, but certainly not least, gorgeous blue, late-blooming gentians (Gentiana calycosa) are a wonderful finale to the mountain flower season. Eagle Cap Wilderness, Wallowa Mountains.

Call For Papers

by Cindy Roché, *Kalmiopsis* Editor

Traditional features are returning to *Kalmiopsis*: Plant of the Year and Oregon Plants, Oregon Places.

The plant of the year series, which celebrates an Oregon native species, was begun in volume 2 in 1992 and continued through volume 6 in 1996. Featured plants and their authors were the following: *Lomatium bradshawii*—Thomas Kaye, *Darlingtonia*—Frank Lang, *Cimicifuga elata*—Thomas Kaye, Western juniper—Stuart Garrett, *Lilium occidentale*—Edward O. Guerrant, Jr.

Plant of the year articles discuss identification, biology and ecology, distribution, management, conservation, threats, and include illustrations or photos for a single species and have ranged in length from one to four pages.

Articles for the Oregon Plants, Oregon Places series are longer, and include descriptions of soils, geology, climate, ecology, plant communities, human history, and species lists. They are illustrated by maps and photos or line drawings of landscapes and individual plants. Previous articles have featured the following locations: The Painted Hills: Thirty Million Years of Phytogeography—Stuart Garrett and Berta Youtie; Upper and Lower Table Rocks, Jackson County—Joan SeEVERS and Darren Borgias; Rough and Ready Creek—Darren Borgias and Barbara Ullian; Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon: Botanical Description and Floral Checklist—Marjorie Ettinger and Susan Harless; Botanizing the Southern Oregon Coast (Coos Bay to Port Orford)—Bruce Rittenhouse.

These articles have served as 'tour guides' for locals and visitors alike and as an educational resource for land managers. They are one of the reasons that back issues of *Kalmiopsis* have earned an accessible storage location so that we can refer to them on a regular basis. Additional locations suggested by NPSO board members are the Columbia River Gorge, the Willows, the North Coast, Crater Lake, the Owyhee

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" by Rhoda M. Love 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.**

NPSO Membership Directory lists names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail address of NPSO members (April 2001). Available from Jan Dobak, 2584 NW Savier St., Portland OR 97210. **\$3 postpaid.**

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.

NPSO 40th Anniversary Tote Bag has been produced by the Corvallis Chapter to commemorate this milestone year for NPSO. It is a sturdy black canvas bag 14"w x 14"h x 3"d featuring our signature *Trillium ovatum* in a screenprinted design by Bonnie Hall. The totes can be ordered while supplies last at \$10 a piece plus \$2 per bag for shipping from: Corvallis Chapter NPSO, 4090 NW Dale Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330. Treat yourself. Then consider Christmas or a uniquely Oregon gift to give on your travels.



region, Snake River Canyon, Hart Mountain Refuge, Central Oregon Pumice Zone, Broken Top, Lawrence Grasslands, The Island, Big Summit Prairie, Klamath Basin, Steens-Alvord Ecosystem, Three Sisters Wilderness, Leslie Gulch, Metolius Basin, Camp Polk Preserve, Black Hills, Badlands WSA, the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, and the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. The possibilities are not limited by these suggestions and the editors welcome all proposals for Oregon Plants, Oregon Places. Here is your opportunity to showcase a part of Oregon special to you!

For both features, please refer to previous issues of *Kalmiopsis* for length and content of articles, and to the 'notice to contributors' inside the back cover of volumes 7 and 8 for submission instructions. Manuscripts may be submitted at any time; authors will be notified by the editors at the time of acceptance when their article will be published. Because time is relatively short for inclusion in the 2002 issue, prospective authors should contact the editors soon to discuss a submission date. Cindy Roché, 109 Meadow View Drive, Medford, OR 97504, crupinaqueen@home.com.

Highlights of the State Board Meeting, September 29 in Bend

by Kelli Van Norman, Secretary

The 3rd quarter state board meeting was held at the Bend Library. Thank you to the Bend Chapter for hosting the State Board's quarterly meeting. The next Board meeting is set for January 19th in McMinnville. All Board members please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

NPSO has been an active member of Environmental Federation of Oregon (EFO) since EFO's founding. EFO has now merged with the larger, national group Earth Share, "a federation of America's leading non-profit environmental and conservation organizations" that "works to promote environmental education and charitable giving through workplace giving campaigns." (See article on this page.)

NPSO receives annual funding by volunteering 75 hours per year in EFO/Earth Share and having their logo on our publications. Shane Latimer, our NPSO representative to EFO/Earth Share, will be moving soon so we are looking for a volunteer from the Portland area to take his place.

Publications: NPSO is catching up on a backlog of *Kalmiopsis* by printing two issues this year thanks to the hard work of Cindy Roché. Volume 7 of *Kalmiopsis* was mailed to members in May, and Volume 8 was mailed in October. NPSO's profit on sales for Occasional Paper Number 2, *Life of L. F. Henderson*, has now exceeded \$1,000. The Board budgeted for sales of \$500 this year, so we have doubled our expectations, thanks largely to Rhoda Love's hard sales pitch! Orders for *Life of L. F. Henderson* have come from all over the US, from Canada, and from Europe.

NPSO's web master, Michael Hartman, will be updating NPSO's web pages. He is including a Rare & Endangered page and a Noxious Weeds page. Events, chapter presidents, and native plant links can also be found on the NPSO web page at www.NPSOoregon.org.

Scott Sundberg reports that the Oregon Flora Project has received a 3-

year, \$680,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for a project entitled "Personal Digital Field Guides: Mobile Access to Comprehensive Regional Flora." The grant will pay for design and software development for the online version of the flora. Oregon Flora Project has also recently received a significant grant (\$175,000) from the BLM to document plant species, subspecies and varieties in Oregon counties. The Friends of the OFP has been informed that it will receive a \$13,600 grant from Willamette Industries, Inc. Funds will be donated, via the NPSO, to the Flora project, and will be used to write a prototype of a rare plant guide. As you can see the Flora project is entering a new phase, and volunteers are needed to help with a number of projects. (See front page article for more in-

formation on the Oregon Flora Project's exciting news.)

Tom Kaye, of the Institute for Applied Ecology, provided a report outlining the conservation projects accomplished by four NPSO-sponsored summer interns this past summer. The work ranged from reintroduction and augmentation work with Willamette Valley rare plants to the evaluation of long-term grazing effects on Snake River goldenweed (*Haplopappus radialis*) in Baker County.

Several members of the Siskiyou Chapter were present at the Board meeting. They are excitedly preparing for next year's annual meeting June 7-9, 2002 near Ashland. They hope to highlight the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument at the annual meeting.

Environmental Federation of Oregon Evolves into Earth Share of Oregon

NPSO is a proud member of the newly renamed Earth Share of Oregon, formerly known as the Environmental Federation of Oregon. As the announcement is made official in September 2001, their work is expanded to include supporting some of the finest environmental organizations in the world. This new name does not change their commitment to the health of Oregon's citizens and the preservation of its ancient forests, waterways, and wild lands. What will change is the amount of choice that donors will enjoy. In addition to the 32 leading non-profit organizations currently affiliated with EFO, donors can now choose to give to 40 national and global environmental organizations. As always, donors are strongly encouraged to designate their dollars to organizations such as NPSO, or they may give a general contribution, which will be distributed amongst all 72 groups. Since contributions are spread over the

course of a year, the amount deducted from a weekly paycheck is minimal, and all gifts are fully tax deductible. These contributions can really make a difference.

For the past 12 years ESO has grown to include over 70 companies whose commitment to the natural world comes through in their employees donations. Through the donors' contributions they have been able to provide \$4 million to many important environmental causes such as NPSO. If you don't have an Earth Share of Oregon campaign at your workplace, establishing one is easy. Earth Share of Oregon will work with your employer to set one up to meet your company's needs.

We are excited about this evolution into Earth Share of Oregon and look forward to the growth in the next 12 years. If you would like some additional information, contact them at 503-223-9015, or visit their new website at www.earthshare-oregon.org.

Fire in the Dry Meadows

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weed problem at some sites. Although fire was a natural process in these meadows in pre-settlement times, many of the weedy plants now present may have come from fire-prone ecosystems elsewhere in the world, making them adapted to burns. Weedy species of particular concern include dogtail (*Cynosurus echinatus*), soft brome (*Bromus mollis*), and Klamath weed (*Hypericum perforatum*).

Measuring the effects

Our field work here was designed to detect changes in the plant species composition and habitat characteristics of the meadows before and after fire, and between burned areas and unburned controls. We set up randomly placed half-meter plots in which we identified and measured the percentage cover of all plant species present as well as bare soil, lichens, mosses, litter, soil depth, loose rock, and bedrock. The precise contents of each plot varied across the meadows, and our random samples captured this diversity. In each of the meadows, we worked with the Umpqua National Forest botanists and fire staff to identify one region that would be burned and another that would serve as a control. The burn

areas will be burned this fall (if weather conditions permit). During next year's field season, after the prescribed burn has taken place, the effects of the fire on the overall meadow vegetation and habitat can be determined by resampling the same plots we established this year. The sampling in these two meadows is the first round in a project that will eventually include up to a half dozen dry meadows in the Cottage Grove Ranger District.

Characteristics of dry meadows

The meadows have similar characteristics in their topography and the types of plants that occur in them. Both are very steep with rocky outcrops on south facing slopes. The soil depth is unevenly distributed due to the rock outcrops but is generally shallow and dry, except in seep areas that remain damp longer into the summer season. Both meadows had several deer trails running throughout them, which assisted us in navigating up and down the very steep slopes. Grasses, both native and non-native dominated most open areas. These included the native blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*), and such weedy annuals as dogtail, soft brome, and silver hairgrass (*Aira caryophyllea*). Among the grasses were a diversity of wildflower species that featured a wonderful display of color and composition



Linanthus bicolor, a common annual in areas of thin soil in the dry meadows.

in early summer. There was small-flowered deervetch (*Lotus micranthus*) in assorted shades of pink, two-color lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*) in blue and white, two species of Brodiaea (*Brodiaea* spp.), one in white and one in purple, monkeyflower (such as *Mimulus guttatus*) in vibrant yellow, spectacular masses of rosy plectritis (*Plectritis congesta*), bicolored linanthus (*Linanthus bicolor*) and of particular interest to me, Thompson's mistmaiden (*Romanzoffia thompsonii*).

Inspirations from Thompson's mistmaiden

Thompson's mistmaiden is a rare endemic plant that occurs in the western Oregon Cascades. The U.S. Forest Service considers it to be a sensitive species. It is threatened or endangered throughout its range, which is limited to Marion, Linn, Lane, Douglas, and Jackson counties (ONHP 2001). All populations grow in seasonally wet, usually open, rocky and sunny habitats. Elevations vary from 750–6000 feet and commonly face south to southwest (Marttala 1996). We found Thompson's mistmaiden growing in Harvey Meadow. Marttala (1996) describes the



A mid-elevation dry meadow in the western Cascades.

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Fire in the Dry Meadows

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flowers as having a “yellow eye,” a yellow or gold band in the tube or throat of the corolla. It is a tiny yet beautiful flower that often grows in small clumps. It is unique among species of *Romanzoffia* in being an annual. When in bloom at Harvey Meadow, there were thousands of small flowers all over the ground. Most of these plants are in an area that is not scheduled for burning, and it seems unlikely that burning would benefit them given the dampness of their habitat and relative absence of invasive weeds.

Although Thompson’s mistmaiden was not directly included in our research plots, it was while observing this plant that I began to truly appreciate the work that I was about to undertake with this internship. This species was the first rare native plant of Oregon that I encountered in its natural habitat and I recognized the value of its existence in just its simple beauty. One of the smallest and most unpretentious flowers in the meadow broadened my view into a much larger scope and I couldn’t wait to become familiar with all the species involved in our other projects and to assist in their conservation. Now that the work is done for this season, I have had the opportunity to become familiar with many amazing species of plants that I hope will remain here forever (and with all the seeds that we collected and cleaned, I’ll bet NPSO and IAE make sure of it!).



Thompson's mistmaiden flower close-up.



Yellow monkey flower (Mimulus guttatus), a showy plant of wet seeps.

I would like to thank the Native Plant Society of Oregon for sponsoring such a valuable program and Tom Kaye for being such a terrific teacher. I have learned an incredible amount over the past three months and am intrigued as to how all the data will add up for the final conclusions. And you all will have to wait for next year’s interns to return to the dry meadows and find out as well!

References

- Marttala, V. 1996. *Romanzoffia thompsonii* (Hydrophyllaceae), a new species from Oregon. *Madroño* 43:404-414.
- ONHP, 2001. *Rare, threatened and endangered plants and animals of Oregon*. Oregon Natural Heritage Program, Portland, Oregon. 94 pp.



Thompson's mistmaiden (Romanzoffia thompsonii), a tiny rare annual only 1-2 inches tall, forms dense displays of tiny white flowers in seeps.

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A Secret at Last Revealed!

by Rhoda Love

All NPSOers probably now realize that Volume 8 of *Kalmiopsis* is a Festschrift honoring Oregon's much-loved and admired Dr. Kenton Chambers, professor Emeritus of Botany at Oregon State University. The word Festschrift in German refers to a commemorative publication. In this case, the event being commemorated was Ken's 70th birthday in September of 1999.

Although a number of people inevitably knew that this Festschrift was being prepared, the secret was well-kept and we all sincerely believe that its appearance was a complete surprise for Ken! An advance copy was presented to him by his wife Henny and a number of other well-wishers at OSU on October 11th.

Also presented to him at that time, thanks to *Kalmiopsis* co-editor Linda Vorobik and the Native Plant Society, was the framed original of Linda's beautiful drawing of *Castilleja chambersii*, which graces the front cover of the publication.

Happy birthday, Ken. While your commemorative volume was in preparation you celebrated two additional birthdays. May you celebrate at least thirty more!

Ken Chambers, identifying plants with NPSO Annual Meeting field trip participants, Mary's Peak.

TANYA HARVEY