



# Bulletin

of the

# Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 39, No. 4

APRIL 2006

## Intern Report

### *Aster vialis*, Their Chance in the Sun

by Robert Castlen

The following article on Wayside aster is the first in the series from NPSO/Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE) interns during the 2005 field season. Interns participated in rare plant monitoring, restoration, floristic surveys, and other research projects conducted by IAE staff throughout Oregon during the past summer. In this article, Robert Castlen describes his experience working with population monitoring and habitat restoration for Wayside aster in forests near Eugene, in collaboration with the BLM. For more information on internship opportunities, please contact IAE at [kayet@peak.org](mailto:kayet@peak.org), 541-753-3099 or visit [www.appliedeco.org](http://www.appliedeco.org). Many thanks to NPSO for contributing to botanical education and work experience.

Tom Kaye, Institute for Applied Ecology, Corvallis, Oregon

#### *Aster vialis*

*Aster vialis* (wayside aster), endemic to the Willamette Valley and surrounding foothills, is an herbaceous perennial in the Sunflower family that can grow to heights of about 1 m, and produces yellow but not particularly showy flowers from mid-July to September. An individual can have multiple stems connected from as far apart as 20 cm by underground rhizomes, and may live for 50 years or more (C. Mayrsohn, pers. comm.). Populations are found on dry locations in coniferous forests from elevations of 150 m to 960 m. *A. vialis* is present at sites of varying sunlight, from completely open to completely closed Douglas-fir canopies, but the plant appears to prefer light levels somewhere in between (Wogen 1998).

#### The Current Situation

Populations of *A. vialis* are declining as the natural succession of undisturbed forest proceeds and the overstory closes in. It appears that *A. vialis* has low rates of flowering and fruiting

when deprived of too much light by an overhead canopy (Wogen 1998). This, added to its high percentage of sterile seeds and strict germination needs, creates a low rate of seedling recruitment and population growth for the species. The decline in size of some populations and the lack of new population establishment could put *A. vialis* on a downward spiral. *A. vialis* plants are self-incompatible, so they require cross pollination from insects (Kaye et al. 1991). As flowering declines and its habitat becomes fragmented, the chances of reproduction for this plant may drop. The reproduction that does occur in these situations is from a small gene pool and the potential for inbreeding depression is high. It is for these reasons that *A. vialis* is listed as a threatened species by the state of Oregon and a species of concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The growing region of *A. vialis* is an area that was historically subject to frequent natural fires and prescribed burnings by indigenous peoples. These

*continued on page 40*

## 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

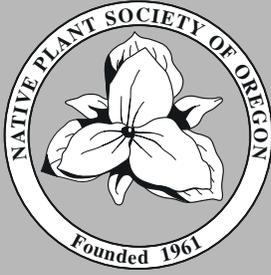
### June 7-9 in McMinnville

*Don't miss it!*

Look for registration form and other information in March *Bulletin* or online at [www.npsoregon.org](http://www.npsoregon.org)

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## Native Plant Society of Oregon

### World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregion.org>

### E-mail Discussion List

To join send a message to [majordomo@tardigrade.net](mailto:majordomo@tardigrade.net), with the following in the body of the message:   
subscribe npsos

### General Business Address

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Eugene, OR 97440  
or correspond directly with Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside of the back page.

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### Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

Editor: Tanya Harvey

ISSN 0884-599. Published 11 times per year. Subscription price \$18/year. Date and issue number on page 1.

The submission date is the 10th of each month for the following month's issue except for the Aug./Sept. issue which is July 24. Send submissions by e-mail to [bulletin@NPSOregion.org](mailto:bulletin@NPSOregion.org).

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.

## Native Plant Appreciation Week

May 1-8, 2006 will officially be declared Native Plant Appreciation by Governor Ted Kulongoski. This is a chance for all of us to share our passion for native plants with the general public and instill native plant appreciation in a new group of people. One of the main goals of NPAW is to reach out to the general public more so than usual by offering events for newcomers and advertising in the newspaper or on the radio. It is important that organizers publicize their own events and forward me all relevant information so it can be added to the website. It's not too late to organize an event or to collaborate with other organizations. The Corvallis chapter is planning to sponsor a native plant sale, school programs, wild-flower hikes, and a joint outing with the Sierra Club. Remember to check the NPSO website ([www.npsoregon.org](http://www.npsoregon.org)) for the latest updates. Please contact Matt Blakeley-Smith ([mattbs@peak.org](mailto:mattbs@peak.org) or 541-752-1091) with any further questions.

## Rare & Endangered Plants Committee

Oregon has ten species on the Federal list of R&E plant species and 29 on the State list (with nine overlaps). The state-wide R&E Committee wishes to monitor how these species are doing and also to determine which additional species warrant listing. The Committee would like to develop educational programs that describe the state's flora for use by schools and others. We would like to increase our conservation activities by providing appropriate and specific information about local plants to city and county committees on management, planning, and parks and recreation. To carry out these activities, we are seeking new members who wish to learn more about R&E plants and who would find it worthwhile to help increase public awareness of our wonderful flora. Please join us. Contact Les Gottlieb (Siskiyou Chapter): [leslie@ashlandhome.net](mailto:leslie@ashlandhome.net) (541-488-0731)



TANYA HARVEY

*Sometimes you find plants without ever even seeing them. Last July at Abbott Butte in Douglas County, the seeps were filled with small annuals: Mimulus guttatus, M. breweri, Gilia capillaris and, seen above, Lewisia triphylla. It was only upon looking at my photographs this winter that I noticed an even tinier flower in bloom. This miniscule 3-parted (unusual for a dicot) annual with pinnate leaves turns out to be Floerkea proserpinacoides, false mermaid. There aren't very many records on the Oregon Flora Project Atlas. But at this size, it is easily overlooked!*

## State

### June 9 – 11, Friday – Sunday

**Annual Meeting:** The Willamette Valley and Cheahmill chapters will jointly host the Annual Meeting at Linfield College in McMinnville. Information and registration materials were included in the March *Bulletin* and can also be found on the NPSO website, [www.NPSOOregon.org](http://www.NPSOOregon.org).

## Blue Mountain

For information on the Blue Mountain Chapter call Jerry Baker at 541-566-2244.

## Cheahmill

### April 6, Thursday, 7:30 pm

**Lecture: Gathering Moss: Lessons from the Small and Green.** Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer, a Professor of Environmental & Forest Biology at SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forest Biology in Syracuse, NY, will give a free, public slide presentation at Graf Hall 101, Linfield College in McMinnville. This event is co-sponsored by the biology department at Linfield and the Cheahmill Chapter. Dr. Kimmerer has published numerous articles on the biology and ecology of mosses, as well as articles on traditional Native American knowledge of the natural world. Her new book, *Gathering Moss: A Natural and Cultural History of Mosses* won this year's 79th annual John Burroughs Medal for outstanding natural history writing. This talk is an invitation to stop and look more closely, to explore and learn from the elegantly simple lives of mosses. Mosses play ecological roles that belie their small stature and intertwine with the lives of countless other beings. The talk brings to life the natural history and cultural relationships of mosses as a powerful metaphor for ways of living in the world. For more info call Susan, 503-538-1865, [helgesusan@comcast.net](mailto:helgesusan@comcast.net).

### April 27, Thursday, 7 pm

**Meeting: Changing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1875-2005.** What do golden sedge, western lady slipper, and ghost orchids have in common? They once grew in Portland and have since disappeared. Reed canary grass and English ivy were once infrequent or absent and are now ubiquitous. Join wetlands ecologist, John Christy, to hear about these and other botanical factual oddities recovered from 100-year-old publications and specimens documenting Portland's flora—from the days of horse-drawn traffic to the present. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Library,

### IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. **Bring water and lunch.** 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. Dogs are not allowed. 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.

225 NW Adams St. More info? Susan Williams 503-538-1865 or [helgesusan@comcast.net](mailto:helgesusan@comcast.net).

### April 29, Saturday, 9 am – 4 pm

**Workshop & Field Trip: Bryophyte Basics.** This all-day educational experience will be led by wetlands ecologist John Christy who specializes in wetland community ecology, bryophytes, and historical ecology. The morning workshop on how to identify mosses will be held on the Linfield College campus in McMinnville and will be followed by an afternoon field trip to Mt. Hebo. The event is co-sponsored by the Linfield Biology department and the Cheahmill Chapter. Cost is \$40. Pre-registration is required. Participant numbers are limited. To register send check payable to "Cheahmill NPSO" to Susan Williams, 29601 NE David Ln., Newberg OR 97132. For more info call Susan at 503-538-1865 or e-mail to [helgesusan@comcast.net](mailto:helgesusan@comcast.net).

## Corvallis

### April 9, Sunday, 7:30 am

**Field Trip: Catherine Creek.** Columbia River Gorge. We'll explore one of the premier wildflower hot spots in Oregon. 300 miles round-trip drive; easy walking 3 to 4 miles, with 500 ft. elevation gain. A reservation is required for this particularly popular trip. Meet at the OSU parking lot SW of the Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis. Please contact Matt Blakeley-Smith [mattbs@peak.org](mailto:mattbs@peak.org) 541-752-1091

### April 10, Monday, 7:30 pm

**Meeting: Empty Promises and Tasty Treats, the Pollination Ecology of Mountain Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium montanum*) and Brown's Peony (*Paeonia brownii*).** Nan Vance, a plant physiologist with the US Forest Service, will be presenting her research on these two amazing Oregon natives. Nan will discuss how the Brown's peony and mountain lady's slipper

orchid attract specific pollinators and ensure pollination success, and the evolutionary and ecological implications of their mating systems. Meetings are held at the Avery House, Avery Park, Corvallis. For more information please contact John Syring at 541-752-0414.

### **April 22, Saturday, 9 am**

**Field Trip: Beazell County Park.** Kings Valley. On this half-day trip we will visit Benton County's newly added 585-acre memorial forest. We'll look for early flowering forest species as well as upland prairie rarities. Meet at the OSU parking lot SW of the Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis. Contact Matt Blakeley-Smith mattbs@peak.org 541-752-1091.

### **Photo Contest Entries Wanted**

Corvallis chapter is sponsoring a photo art show, "Native Plants of Benton County," May 2-31. Up to 30 8" x 10" images will be selected to hang in the art display window at the Birkenstock Store on Third Street. Members are invited to submit their prints to Frances Stilwell or Matt Blakeley-Smith by Monday, April 24 at 5 pm. Each submission must be matted in white and labeled on the back with plant ID, location and date. A few potential themes include native plant portraits, plant communities, native plant gardens, pollinators, or people interacting with plants. Please contact mfstilwell@peak.org or mattbs@peak.org with any questions.

## **Emerald**

### **April 1, Saturday, 9 am**

**Field Trip: Sweet Creek in the Coast Range.** Learn moss identification and view spring flora. Rob Weiss will lead a 2- to 3-mile hike along the Sweet Creek Trail. He will supply each participant with a list of 60 bryophytes found in the area. Bring hand lens, rain gear and lunch. Meet at 9 am at South Eugene High School or 10 am at the lower Sweet Creek trailhead. For more info call Rob at 541-563-3947 or Dave at 541-345-5531.

### **April 15, Saturday, 10 am**

**Field Trip: Mount Pisgah Arboretum.** Rhoda Love will lead a wildflower hike from 10 to noon.

### **April 24, Monday, 7:30 pm**

**Meeting: Grand Canyon Flora.** Bitty Roy and Michael Wherley will show pictures of botanical treasures and rapids at the bottom of the Grand Canyon of Arizona seen while rafting down the Colorado River. Room 115, Science Building, Lane Community College, 4000 30th Ave. East, Eugene. For more info call 541-345-5531.

### **May 8, Monday, 4:30 pm**

**Field Trip: Walk the Wild Side of Mt. Pisgah.** Join us for an early evening eco-walk to observe wildflowers, wildlife and the end of day on Mt. Pisgah. Meet at northeast corner, lower, parking lot of Lane Community College 4:30 pm to carpool to SE entrance to Howard Buford Recreation Area off Ridgeway Rd. Or meet us at the SE entrance by 5 pm. (To get there from Eugene, when entering Pleasant Hill on Hwy 58 turn left/north on Ridgeway Road for 1.5 miles.) **Lane County Parks parking permit required**—see their website. Join us in this observation of Native Plant Appreciation Week. Leader: Bruce Newhouse, 541-343-2364.

### **May 20, Saturday, 9 am**

**Help Needed: Wildflower Collection.** The Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Festival will be held Sunday, May 21. Please join Emerald Chapter Saturday in collecting flowers for the show. The flowers will be displayed in the new White Oak Pavilion to help others learn about and appreciate the wonder, diversity and beauty of plant life in our area. For more information call David at 541-746-9478.

## **High Desert**

There will be no meetings this winter. For information on the High Desert Chapter contact Berta Youtie at 541-447-8166.

## **Klamath Basin**

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, contact Sarah Malaby, 541-884-5703, smalaby@cs.com.

## **Mid-Columbia**

### **April 5, Wednesday, 7:30 pm**

**Meeting: Wild Flower Show Planning.** Let's go over collection routes and plant species for the display on Sunday. Remember to bring your glass. Set up is on Saturday at 10 am. Mike Igo Leader. The Dalles Chronicle Meeting Room, 317 E. 3rd Street, The Dalles.

### **April 9, Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm**

**Wild Flower Show:** Presented at the American Legion Hall in Mosier, Oregon. Come take in the splendor of Columbia Gorge wild flowers. Learn their names and habits. Show up early and hike in the afternoon sun. Nothing beats the Gorge in the spring!

## **North Coast**

Wanted, new members for our group, located in Tillamook County. Trips subject to suggestions. Please phone Janet Stahl 503-842-8708.

## **Portland**

### **April 8, Saturday, 10 am – 1:30 pm**

**Field Trip: Madrone Wall.** The Madrone Wall is an unusual Pliocene lava flow bluff overlooking the Clackamas River that supports a large and uncommon stand of mature Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*). The Madrone Wall Preservation Committee ([www.savemadrone.org](http://www.savemadrone.org)), dedicated to the long term preservation of the Wall, will lead a public tour with the Portland Chapter to view wildflowers at this unique geologic area. Portland members with wildflower expertise are encouraged to attend. Meet for a carpool at TriMet's Gateway/N.E. 99th Avenue Transit Center in Portland at 10 am. RSVP to Keith Daellenbach ([kdaellenbach@att.net](mailto:kdaellenbach@att.net)).

## April 13, Thursday, 7 pm

**Meeting: Nevada High Country.** Jan and Dave Dobak will show and tell about the botanical wonders of the Ruby Mountains and Great Basin National Park (Wheeler Peak) in north-eastern Nevada. The trails begin at 9000' and climb higher. Room #202, First United Methodist Church, 1938 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Located just uphill from the Goose Hollow MAX stop.

## April 15, Saturday, 8:15 am

**Field Trip: Catherine Creek.** Wendell Wood, naturalist and advocate for the Oregon Natural Resources Council will lead a wildflower identification hike. Meet at 8:15 am at the Gateway Transit Center or at 10 am at Catherine Creek Trailhead. Be prepared for poison oak. (Directions to Catherine Creek: Take I-84 to Hood River and cross the bridge over the Columbia River to White Salmon, WA. Continue east on Hwy 14 through Bingen. 5 miles east of Bingen turn left onto Rowland Lake Rd. In just over a mile, you'll come to the gravel roadside parking area.) RSVP John Halsell at [halsell-vore@earthlink.net](mailto:halsell-vore@earthlink.net) to receive last minutes notices of any rescheduling due to weather.

## April 22, Saturday, TBA

**Field Trip: Memaloose Hills.** 5-6 miles, 800 ft. elevation gain. This beautiful site near Mosier, with meadows, oak woods, and basalt outcroppings, features balsamroot, lupine, paintbrush, shooting stars, and a large variety of other flowers, including the rare *Suksdorfia violacea*, which should be blooming. Contact Beth Magnus for meeting time and place: 503-226-7919, [magnus@pcez.com](mailto:magnus@pcez.com).

## April 30, Sunday, 8:30 am

**Field Trip: Hood River Mountain.** Cavort through meadows of yellow and violet with overlooks of Mt. Hood, pear orchards, the town of Hood River, and the Columbia River. We will meet at the SE corner of the Gateway/NE 99th Avenue Park and Ride lot and leave at 8:30. 4-5 miles, 600 feet of elevation gain. Call Susan Nelson at 503-284-1455 for details.

# Siskiyou

## April 8, Saturday, 10 am

**Field Trip: Lower Table Rock.** See the spring riot of floral color in one of southwest Oregon's floristic wonderlands. Meet at 10 am in the Lower Table Rock parking lot. Moderate 2-3 mile hike, with elevation gain of 800 ft. The Umpqua chapter will be joining us on this trip. Leader: Alex Maksymowicz, 541-482-1964

## April 15, Saturday, 9 am

**Field Trip: Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside (Illinois Valley).** Enjoy the high diversity of serpentine plants in the Illinois Valley. Time permitting, we will also drive to the fen located next to Whiskey Creek on Wimer Road. Short, easy hikes. Meet 9 am at Illinois Valley Visitor Center, Cave Junction, half a block from Hwy 199 on Hwy 46, heading toward Oregon Caves National Monument. Leaders: Karen McCullough, 541-592-4032, and Anita Seda, 541-301-2561

## April 20, Thursday, 7:30 pm

**Meeting: Postfire Restoration in Southwestern Oregon.** Lori Kayes will share her research on early-successional vegetation dynamics and microsite preferences in postfire restoration within the Timbered Rock fire complex of the BLM Butte Falls Resource Area. Lori is a PhD student in forest science at OSU. Room 171 of the SOU Science Building, Ashland. Free and open to the public. For more info contact Celeste Coulter at 503-780-6360.

## April 22, Saturday, 9 am

**Field Trip: Viewpoint Mike (Lost Creek Lake).** We'll follow a trail above the Rogue River to a viewpoint above Lost Creek Lake, passing through oak woodlands, mixed hardwood-conifer forest to an opening with lots of basalt rock outcrops. Along the way we'll see a good variety of spring flowers and ferns, including a couple of rarer species: Kellogg's monkeyflower and Bellinger's meadowfoam. Easy-to-moderate, 3-mile hike with 700 ft elevation gain. Meet 9 am outside BLM building

Biddle Rd, Medford (on the way to Medford Airport). Leader: Marcia Wineteer, 541-618-2494

## April 29, Saturday, 9 am

**Field Trip: Beatty Creek ACEC (Douglas County).** Expect to see many flowers on this moss-covered bluff that was described in Volume 11 of *Kalmiopsis* (2004). Access is easy, though clambering up the face of the bluff might test your fitness; however it will definitely be worth the time and effort. Expect 1-2 miles of moderately steep, off-trail hiking. Meet at 9 am at US Forest Service Bldg, 200 NE Greenfield Rd, Grants Pass, just east of I-5, Exit 58, or 10 am in MacDonald's parking lot just west of I-5 exit 103 (45 mi north of Grants Pass). Joint field trip with the Umpqua chapter. Leaders: Alex Maksymowicz, 541-482-1964, and Norm Jensen, 541-951-4420 or [normjensen@gmail.com](mailto:normjensen@gmail.com)

## May 6, Saturday, 9 am

**Field Trip: Star Flat (Illinois Valley).** We will see unique spring-blooming serpentine plants such as California pitcher-plant, California lady's slipper, and stream orchid, along with many other more common beautiful flowers like western azalea, violets, balsamroots and fairy slippers in an intriguing serpentine fen. Easy 2-3 mile hike. Meet 9 am on right (south) side of Selma Market parking lot in Selma, 20 miles south of Grants Pass on Hwy 199. Leader: Don Heinze, 541-955-7247

# Umpqua Valley

## April 1, Saturday, 8:30 am

**Field Trip: North Bank Habitat Management Area.** We will see early spring flowers around Oak woodlands and grasslands. Some plants to see include *Arabis koehleri koehleri*, *Lomatium hallii*, *L. utriculatum*, *Erythronium oregonum*, *Dodecatheon hendersonii*, and *Fritillaria affinis*. Meet in the NE corner of the parking lot behind the Douglas County Court House, 1036 SE Douglas Ave, Roseburg at 8:30 am. For info call Sam Friedman 541-673-0589.

**April 8, Saturday, 9 am – 12 pm**

**Program: Landscaping with Native Plants.** Ron Hatt, chapter president, and Donna Rawson, owner of Oakhill Farms Native Plant Nursery, will talk about the basics of native plant landscaping through a presentation and live plant demonstrations. This is one of a series of workshops sponsored by Healthy Homes of Myrtle Creek, an interagency grant group focused on reducing toxics in the home and in our waterways. Myrtle Creek Grange, 661 Riverside Rd, Myrtle Creek. For more information call Jim Lee at Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District, 541-957-5061.

**April 13, Thursday, 7 pm**

**Meeting: Vegetation Change in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.** Dr. Paul Hosten, ecologist for the Bureau of Land Management, will give a presentation on vegetation change in the woodlands and shrublands of southwest Oregon, with an emphasis on the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. Greene's mariposa lily and Gentner's fritillary are two plants of interest that will be discussed. Mercy Education Bldg., 2459 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg. For more information call Sam Friedman at 541-673-0589.

**April 15, Saturday, 8 am**

**Field Trip: Lower Table Rock.** Sam Friedman will guide a trip to Lower Table Rock to see the explosion of vernal color in one of Southwestern Oregon's floristic wonderlands. Be prepared to encounter six kinds of popcorn flower, three clovers, meadowfoams, *Meconella californica*, *Fritillaria recurva*, and hopefully *Hesperochiron californica*. Get your cameras ready! Meet in the NE corner of the parking lot behind the Douglas County Courthouse, 1036 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg at 8 am or at the Tri City McDonalds, Exit 103 at 8:30 am or in the Lower Table Rock parking lot, Medford at 10 am. For more information call Sam Friedman at 541-673-0589.

**April 22, Saturday**

**Douglas County Earth Day Fair.** Drop by and visit us at our booth at the Douglas County's 2006 Earth Day Fair. The fair affords a fun filled day of family activities, educational booths, and more while celebrating resource conservation here in Southwestern Oregon. Douglas County Fair Grounds, 2110 SW Frear, Roseburg. For information call Chris McCullough, Douglas County Waste Reduction Manager, at 541-440-4350.

**April 29 – 30, Saturday & Sunday, 9 am – 5 pm**

**Glide Wildflower Show.** Visit our booth at the Glide Wildflower Show. Glide Community Building, 20062 N. Umpqua Highway 138, Glide.

## Willamette Valley

### Display space available

Table and booth space is available for chapters to display information during the NPSO's 2006 annual meeting, June 9-11, on the Linfield College campus in McMinnville. The meeting is sponsored by the Cheahmill and Willamette Valley chapters.

Chapters with things to sell (e.g. wildflower or nature-oriented items, etc.) should set up their displays Friday, June 9 (before registration begins). The deadline to reserve space is May 1. Send reservations to Rob Tracey, Cheahmill Chapter president, at 8210 SW Broadmead Rd., Amity, OR 97101; 503-843-2702. When making reservations, please identify who (individuals or chapter) will need space and generally what items will be displayed.

**April 8, Saturday, 10 am to Noon**

**Field Trip: Bush Park and Deepwood Estate Native Plant Walk.** Nearly two dozen native wildflowers will be in bloom. This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy a close-up view of the plants and learn about them from the experts. Participants should meet at the Deepwood parking lot off of 12th Street. Free and open to the public. For information, please call 503-399-8615.

**April 20, Thursday, 7 – 8:30 pm**

**Program: Bonesteel Park Upland Prairie Restoration.** Tanya Beard, Marion County botanist, will talk about county efforts to restore most of the 31-acre Bonesteel Park between Salem and Aumsville to its original oak savannah habitat. Beard will explain how the restoration plan has evolved over time and highlight both difficulties and successes at the site. She'll also touch on maintenance plans for the park. Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A street NE (next to Olinger Pool and near North Salem High). Free and open to the public. For info, please call 503-399-8615.

**April 22, Saturday, 9:30 am**

**Field Trip and Work Party: Bonesteel Park.** Tanya Beard, Marion County Botanist, will lead a tour of Bonesteel Park, highlighting restoration work done to date and ongoing needs at the site. After the tour, a work party will remove lemon balm, ivy, and blackberries from the forested area. Bring tough gloves, boots, and water. Bonesteel Park is on Aumsville Highway about 2.5 miles east of the Kuebler Blvd. and Aumsville Highway intersection. It is marked with a large sign on the north side of the road. For more information, please call 503-399-8615.

## William Cusick

**April 27, Thursday, 7 pm**

**Program: Rare and Endemic Plants of the Northwest.** Mark Turner, professional photographer from Bellingham, Washington will present a portion of his photographic collection of rare and endemic plants. Mark photographs extensively for books and magazines. His new book is called *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest* and features some of those photographs. Mark has traveled to almost every corner of the Northwest to capture the best wildflower images. La Grande Forestry and Range Sciences Lab, C Avenue and Gekeler Road, La Grande at 7 pm. For information call Kent Coe at 541-962-7049.

## OTHER EVENTS

### Tualatin Hills Nature Park Native Plant Sale

April 15, Saturday, 10 am – 2 pm, 15655 SW Millikan Blvd., Beaverton

Select from a wide variety of trees, shrubs and flowering plants in all price ranges, for every spot in your garden. Check the THPRD website, [www.thprd.org](http://www.thprd.org), for “Plants for Sale Guide.” Visit our annual Earth Day Celebration—this year’s theme is “Earth’s Recyclers”—at the same time. Activities for all ages. For more information visit the website or call 503-629-6350. Free Admission.

### N.A. Rock Garden Society Presentation

Wild Orchids in Italy’s Gargano Peninsula

April 4, Tuesday, 7 pm

Last May, NPSO and NARGS members Jan and David Dobak visited the Gargano Peninsula on the Adriatic coast to see an impressive variety of ground orchids and other Mediterranean flora. Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St., Eugene. Door prizes, refreshments after. Call Holly with questions, 541-345-9103.

### North Mountain Park Nature Center Events

620 N Mountain Ave., Ashland

To get more information and to register visit <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call 541-488-6606.

Bear Creek Reflections: A Nature Writing Experience

April 7, submission deadline

Trees for All Seasons

April 2, Sunday, 2 – 4 pm

Spring Nature Walks in

Hald Strawberry Park

April 5, Wednesday, 4:30 – 6 pm

Field Study Volunteer Training

April 12 & 13, Wednesday &

Thursday, 9 am – 2 pm

Scotch Broom Volunteer Work Party

April 22, Saturday, 9 am – 2 pm

Restoration Work Party

April 29, Saturday, 1 – 3 pm

### Mount Pisgah Arboretum Events

34901 Frank Parrish Rd. (off of Seavey Loop Rd.), Eugene. For more information or to register call 541-747-1504.

Spring Wildflower Walks

April 2, Sunday, 10 am – Noon

April 7, Friday, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

April 15, Saturday, 1 – 3 pm

April 22, Saturday, 10 am – Noon

Eat Your Weeds!

April 1, Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm

Arbor Day Work Party

April 1, Saturday, 9 am – Noon

Spring Field Botany

April 8 & 9, Sat. & Sun., 10 am – 3 pm

Drawing Wildflowers in Graphite

April 8, Saturday, 1 – 4 pm

Gardening with Nature, Pt. 2:

Knowing and Growing Native Plants

April 8, Saturday, 1 – 4 pm,

Fly to a Flower Walk

April 9, Sunday, 1 – 3 pm

Gardening with Nature, Pt. 3:

Native Plant Propagation

April 23, Sunday, 1 – 4 pm

Medicinal Herb Walk

April 30, Sunday, Noon – 2 pm

### North American Butterfly Association Talk

Learning the Common Lane County Butterflies

April 3, Monday, 7 pm: Food and Friends, 7:30 pm: Presentation

Co-founder of the NABA-Eugene-Springfield chapter, and author of *Finding Lane County Butterflies*, Neil Bjorklund will present an introductory class on identifying 45 common butterflies of Lane County. EWEB training room, 500 East 4th Ave., Eugene. Questions? Ellie Ryan, 541-684-8973.

### Berry Botanic Garden Events

To register or to get more information on events at Portland’s Berry Botanic Garden, visit [www.berrybot.org](http://www.berrybot.org) or call Kris at 503-636-4112x22.

New Hikes in Northwest Oregon

April 1, Saturday, 7 – 9 pm

Plant Propagation

April 12, Wednesday, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Spring Plant Sale on Earth Day!

April 22, Saturday, 11 am – 3 pm

Montgomery Park building, 2701 NW Vaughn St., Portland. Free!

Geology and Botany of Camassia

April 27, Thursday, 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Botanical Illustration Workshop

April 29 – 30, Saturday – Sunday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Gardening for Birds and Wildlife

May 6, Saturday, 11 am – 1 pm

### 40th Annual Glide Wildflower Show

April 29 & 30, 9 am - 5 pm

Glide Community Building, 20062 N. Umpqua Highway 138

Hundreds of plants from the diverse habitats of Southwestern Oregon, arranged by family and identified by botanical and common names and photographs of rare and endangered species will be on display. Botanists will be on hand to answer visitors’ questions. For more info call 541-677-3797 or visit [www.glidewildflowershow.org](http://www.glidewildflowershow.org).

## New Guide for the Western Pacific Northwest

Plants of Western Oregon, Washington & British Columbia, by Eugene N. Kozloff. Portland: Timber Press, 2005. 512 pp., 710 color photos. Hardback, \$65.

Reviewed by Dave Dobak

This field guide to Pacific Northwest plants includes natives and naturalized aliens found in the area from the Coast to the Cascade crest in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. It promises aid to botanists in southwestern Oregon, an area neglected in field guides for decades.

This is a book of keys, beyond which there is no synopsis of descriptive information for each species, although there may be an illustration. It is like ‘little’ Hitchcock, not like Jepson or Peck.

Keys are designed to be “nondestructive”; that is, to the greatest extent possible, not requiring digging or dissecting the plant. The book generally achieves this goal. The key to *Allium* does not call for looking at bulb-coats. The *Penstemon* key begins, as usual, by splitting away the members of subgenus *Dasanthera* with easily-viewed hairy anthers, but then the species of the two remaining subgenera are keyed by more evident vegetative characteristics, rather than encouraging flower dismemberment to examine the manner of pollen sac opening. Minutiae are avoided when possible. The key to *Eriogonum* does not begin with the obscure observation of the perianth base—is it ‘stipe-like’ or not. But nutlets are still needed for the *Boraginaceae*; some details are just unavoidable.

Reading the keys, I sometimes have the feeling that Dr. Kozloff is looking over my shoulder—the dry formal text of the key gives way to “the bracts may be small, especially in *E. ovalifolium* var. *nivale*, so look carefully.”

710 plants are illustrated with color photos, and many more are illustrated with line drawings by Jeanne Janish and others, previously published in Hitchcock. But the Janish collection had no illustrations of southwest Oregon plants, so this region is under-represented. Complete plant illustrations,

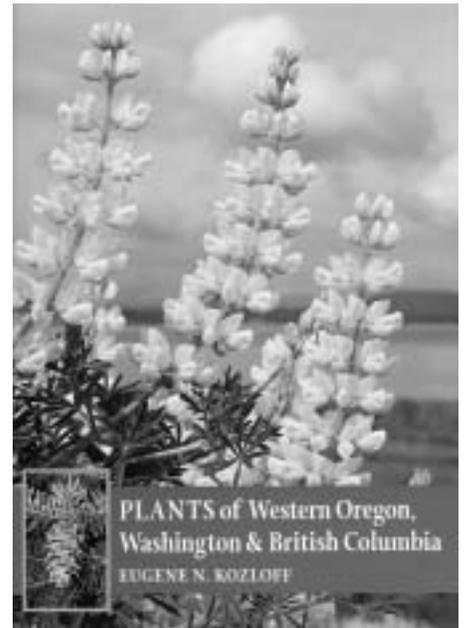
as in ‘big’ Hitchcock are used, not the excerpted vital fragments found in ‘little’ Hitchcock. This choice results in fewer taxa being illustrated, while graphic information beyond the minimal needs of keying is included. Oddly, there are pages with substantial white space where another drawing or photo could have been added. White space in a field guide is a sin that neither Hitchcock nor Jepson ever committed! I am puzzled by inclusion of color plates of *Vinca minor* and *Lunaria annua*, at the expense of excluding other, more interesting plants.

Many field guides have color photos that look pretty, but aren’t very useful for identification. Not so in this book; most of the photos include foliage as well as flower images. Many of the plants are shown against a plain dark background. But many of the pictures are printed too darkly, a tendency that seems very prevalent in publishing. Among many examples: the leaves of *Eriogonum compositum* are a dark blob, and an otherwise interesting underwater photo of *Lobelia dortmanna* has nearly invisible flowers. Blue and purple flowers suffer especially.

*Liliaceae* is retained as a family, not fractured. The *Scrophulariaceae*, *Orobanchaceae*, *Plantaginaceae*, and *Phrymaceae* are not realigned. The lumping of *Asclepiadaceae* into *Apocynaceae*, and of *Hydrophyllaceae* into *Boraginaceae*, are not recognized. Traditionalists will be happy, but another cohort of new botanists will be schooled in old nomenclature.

The Oregon disjunct population of *Fauria crista-galli*, discovered in 1999, is mentioned. But the Oregon outlier populations of *Fritillaria camschatcensis* are not recognized, though these discoveries are at least 20 years old. Not all news travels with equal speed in the botanical jungle.

It’s hard to tell what the resolution



rule is in the treatments. *Heuchera micrantha* is split into two varieties, but *Triteleia hendersonii* is not distinguished between the varieties *hendersonii* and *leachiae*.

Reviewing this book during the wintertime, field checking the keys was not an option. I recalled days in the forest when I had to resort to beginning with the key of All Dicots to identify *Circaea*, *Shepherdia*, *Eriodictyon*, or *Mentzelia*. The book passed all four of these tests with no difficulty. Many other armchair keying efforts were successful. However, a novice kneeling before *Fritillaria glauca* or *F. pudica* would be hard pressed to find *Fritillaria* in the *Liliaceae* key, having followed the branch “none of the leaves in distinct whorls.”

Despite the promotional claim that “botanical coverage is complete,” there are many missing taxa. *Lewisia leeana*, *Pedicularis rainierensis*, *Crepis nana*, *Collomia larsenii*, *C. mazama*, *Cimicifuga laciniata*, *Polygonum cascadenense*, *Asplenium septentrionale*, *Dodecatheon alpinum*, *D. austrofrigidum*, *Arenaria pumicola*, *Ribes watsonianum*, *R. erythrocarpum*, *R. binominatum*, *R. inermis*, *Eriogonum diclinum*, *Erigeron eatonii*, *Mimulus kelloggii*, *M. pygmaeus*, *Penstemon newberryi*, *P. cinicola*, and *Rhamnus ilicifolia* are examples. Of 29 vascular Special Status plant species in

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## Endangered Species Act Endangered

by Darlene Southworth, NPSO Conservation Chair

The Endangered Species Act, passed in 1973 in the Nixon era, has protected the most rare plants and animals from extinction. Last fall the House of Representatives passed a bill that weakens protections in numerous ways. The Pombo bill, HR3824, would:

- Transfer authority for analysis of scientific information from scientists to political appointees.
- Reduce the “critical habitat” designation to sites already occupied by a species without regard for past or future habitat protection.
- Reduce safeguards against pesticides.
- Eliminate protections against deleterious impacts of federal dams and highways.
- Undercut mitigation measures.

Endangered plants in Oregon are part of our heritage, something we want to protect for future generations. They play roles in complex ecosystems, interacting with animals and other plants in often unexplored ways, and they have potential benefits to humans for medicines, food, and industrial uses.

### Timeline

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee may take action on an Endangered Species Act bill as soon as this month. It is time to let your senators know your position on the ESA.

### How to learn more

The Endangered Species Coalition has an informative website, [www.stopextinction.org](http://www.stopextinction.org). Many environmental organizations and scientific societies provide information on the progress of the Senate action.

## NPSO State Board Meeting Highlights

by Leslie Rossmell, Secretary

At the January Board meeting, hosted by the Corvallis chapter, the Board approved the 2006 proposed budget of \$59,400, presented by Dan Luoma and Candice Guth. Candice noted the year ended \$5,500 higher than expected. Membership renewals are on track according to Clay Gautier, Membership Chair.

In 2005, Matt Blakeley-Smith launched our first annual Native Plant Appreciation Week (NPAW). The 2006 NPAW dates are April 29–May 7, to include two weekends. Matt called on chapters to decide on dates and events soon to improve planning and media coverage. The website updates will also occur earlier. Norm Jensen, webmaster, has agreed to update the NPSO site and several board members are coordinating the process.

Rhoda Love reported the John Christy occasional paper on Portland flora is expected before April 1st. Sadly, Rhoda also relayed the listing petition to the Oregon Department of Agriculture for *Sidalcea hendersonii* was denied.

A lengthy discussion of chapter and state responsibilities for administering scholarships arose due to the Willamette Valley’s receipt of a \$25,000 bequest by the Rockefeller estate. The dialogue clarified NPSO’s organization structure: the state and chapters are separate entities; hence, chapters which administer scholarships report to the IRS directly.

Linda Hardison continues working tirelessly to improve the Oregon Flora Project’s finances, volunteer base and organization.

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the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument, 8 are not in this book. (I could list more species, rarer or less showy. There may be still more that have escaped my notice, as I have only spot checked.) Some are endemic, some are more plentiful elsewhere and rare here; but all are of interest to enthusiastic botanists. I have seen many of these plants on day hikes, or even within shouting distance of the car. They deserve to be included. Contemplating the tremendous effort that has evidently gone into authoring this book, I am puzzled by these gaps in coverage that impair its usefulness for professionals and even advanced amateurs. This book must be considered a popular wildflower guide rather than the “definitive” flora it claims to be.

For years, we botanized the Siskiyou with Peck in the pack, Abrams in the car. Later, we took Jepson in the pack, and left Peck with Abrams in the car, knowing that a few Oregon endemics would not be keyed out on the trail. Can we now leave Jepson in the car, and take Kozloff in the pack? Not until the revised second edition appears.

## 2006 Siskiyou Field Institute Courses

The first Naturalist Certificate program in Oregon will be offered this year. It will enhance the services that nature-based businesses in Southern Oregon offer to visitors, as well as serve those who yearn for a deeper understanding of this magnificent region.

We now have a dedicated facility that will offer programs year-round. Deer Creek Ranch, near Selma, provides an ideal environment from which the facility partners—SFI and Southern Oregon University, with participation by Humboldt State University, and Rogue Community College—can initiate research and education programs for the public.

Our catalogs will be out soon and courses can also be viewed on our website, [www.thesfi.org](http://www.thesfi.org).

## *Aster vialis*

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fires, a natural part of the region's ecology, would periodically burn through the forest and vegetation, opening up the forest canopy. Gap formation from fire allowed sufficient light to reach the forest floor and burning the understory would remove the duff and ground cover to expose bare soil. Greater light and exposed soil are beneficial for seedling establishment in *A. vialis*. Fire suppression since settlement has allowed trees to close in and shade the forest floor. IAE is working with the Eugene District, BLM, to investigate the effects of forest thinning on *A. vialis* flowering and population dynamics.

### The Study

To test the hypothesis that additional light will increase flowering and seed production in suppressed populations of *A. vialis*, forest thinning treatments are being applied to a random selection of populations, and these will be compared to populations in unmanipulated habitat.

We established test plots in 18 populations that contained a minimum of 10 *A. vialis* individuals, and that received little sunlight under a closed

canopy. We tagged and mapped every *A. vialis* individual within the plots. Since 2001 each individual has been measured for longest stem length, number of stems, number of capitula (flower heads), and herbivory. Each year we have also measured light availability above every individual using a spherical densiometer and a Solar Pathfinder. In addition, we have monitored the plant community at each site, giving special attention to any invasive species that might benefit and spread with increased light availability and disturbance. Each plot was established with the intent to collect several years of pre- and post-treatment data. In the spring of 2005 two sites received forest thinning treatment and others are scheduled to be treated in the fall of 2005 and spring of 2006.

### Findings Thus Far

The data received up to 2004 suggest that most suppressed populations, though not producing many seeds or seedlings, are relatively stable or in slow decline. I was involved in collecting the 2005 data for the *A. vialis* study and was able to observe the key issues of the study. It was obvious that very few of the plants in our plots had developed or were developing capitula and those

that did were in the sunniest areas. We saw healthy, flowering plants growing near forest roadsides and edges under open canopy conditions. Browsing by deer and insects was more prevalent at some sites than others and in some plots nearly all of the *A. vialis* tops had been bitten off. Although some new plants were found this year, the number of plants that were present in past years but absent this year far exceeded their number. It was exciting to get to monitor the plants at our two treated sites. As yet, no outstanding changes had occurred. This may be because the trees were thinned only this past spring. This study's time frame is very important to fully understand the effects of forest thinning on *A. vialis* and the years to come should provide informative results.

My internship at the Institute for Applied Ecology, sponsored in part by the Native Plant Society of Oregon, has introduced me to a great number of plants that, as a newcomer to Oregon, I have had no previous experience with, let alone knowledge of their existence. More broadly, my internship has introduced me to the practical, political, and financial factors of careers in botany and conservation which I feel is just as educational as the field experience. I have worked intimately with a handful of rare, native species, which has allowed me the opportunity to go beyond the basics of identification and into their life cycles, needs, and relationships with their surrounding ecology.

### Literature cited:

- Kaye, T., K. Kuykendall, and W. Messinger. 1991. *Aster vialis* Inventory, Monitoring, and Pollination Biology. Final Report Submitted to the BLM by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. October 1990. 22 pp.
- Wogen, N.S. 1998. Management Recommendations for Wayside Aster (*Aster vialis* [Bradshaw] Blake) v. 2.0 USDI BLM. 17 pp.



Blossom of *Aster vialis* in a sunny site.

TOM KAYE

# NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Friends of the Oregon Flora Project	\$ _____

Please make checks for dues and contributions payable to:  
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Send completed form and full remittance to:  
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 Membership applications, renewals and change of address (include old address) should be sent to the Membership Chair.

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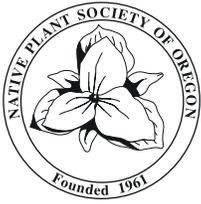
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[www.oregonflora.org](http://www.oregonflora.org)

To wrap up the 2005-2006 fundraising campaign, we are announcing a Last Chance Chapter Challenge! The Emerald Chapter has proposed to match contributions from its members with a donation from the Chapter treasury. We encourage each chapter to consider a similar challenge with its members—we would like to acknowledge each chapter's help in this final push for support of the Oregon Flora Project. As a new field season begins, we hope that information from the Flora Project will enhance your understanding and appreciation of our state's botanical resources. Your support is creating a valuable resource for everyone—thank you!

Please make your check payable to NPSO or to OSU Foundation, note that it is for OFP and which chapter you belong to, and send it to:

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P.O. Box 402  
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