



Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 41, No. 9

OCTOBER 2008

Exotic Australian Tree Fern Discovered in the "Wilds" of Southern Oregon

by Wendell Wood, ww@oregonwild.org

The exotic Australian tree fern, *Sphaeropteris cooperi* (Hook. ex F. Muell.) R. M. Tryon, synonym *Cyathea cooperi* (Hook. ex F. Muell.) Domin, has been discovered in an easily accessed canyon on the southern Oregon coast, approximately 11 miles north of Brookings, Oregon.

This fall, after descending a steep trail to explore sea caves and arches at "Secret Beach" below Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor, an Oregon State Park, I came across a very large fern in the woods along the lower portion of Miner Creek. The location is T39S R14W sw¼ of Sec. 16—roughly midway between "Arch Rock" and "Natural Bridges". The plant was photographed, and scales from a portion of the large diameter lower petiole were collected. With a hand lens, tiny brown angled teeth can be seen along the scales' margins—a vegetative characteristic pinpointing this genus and suggesting the most likely species. At Oregon State University professor Dr. Kenton Chambers' recommendation, material was sent to Dr. Alan R. Smith at the University of California, Berkeley, herbarium. Dr. Smith provided information on how to make a cursory identification in the field, and he then made a positive identification of the species from the pressed and dried specimens that were sent to him.

On a return trip to the area, a total of three plants were located along the bottom of Miner Creek canyon within

approximately 125 yards or less from the beach, and another sample was collected and sent for deposit in the OSU herbarium at Dr. Chambers' request. State Park officials have been notified, and it will be their decision whether to further monitor, or perhaps eradicate, this unexpected subtropical escapee.

It is assumed that the bottom of this small coastal canyon provides thermal protection from freezing, while being isolated enough to protect the exotic ferns from direct contact with the marine salt air and spray. In Queensland, Australia, the native habitat of this species is reported to be in gullies in rain forest (Medeiros et al., *American Fern Journal* 82:27–33. 1992). Of the three tree fern plants located, two were along the canyon bottom and one was on a vertical cliff immediately below a small waterfall. All plants located were probably within 100 feet of each other, and all were observed from the trail or just barely off the trail.

Sphaeropteris cooperi is native to NE Australia but is widely planted and used horticulturally in the USA. It has been cultivated in warm, humid parts of the country, but unfortunately has become too well naturalized in Hawaii, where it is still aggressively spreading (Medeiros et al., 1992). According to Dr. Smith, this may be the first time *Sphaeropteris cooperi* has ever been found naturalized anywhere in the continental United States—including Florida, California, and elsewhere. Dr. Smith writes: "It is

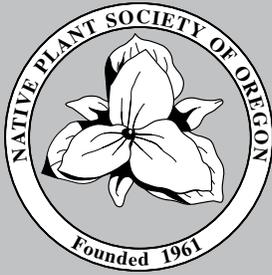
not treated in *Flora of North America North of Mexico* (FNANM), Vol. 2, 1993. As far as I know, there are no members of the tree fern family, Cyatheaceae, naturalized in the continental USA."

Fronds of the Oregon plant showed no fertile sori. Dr. Smith writes: "Often, and depending on light and other

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Native Plant Society of Oregon

World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

E-mail Discussion List

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

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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@NPSOregon.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.

Volunteer Needed to Produce the *Bulletin*

After over 8 years and 95 issues of the NPSO *Bulletin*, the current editor is retiring at the end of the year. We have a volunteer willing to do the editing. We still need someone to put together the actual newsletter file. This would involve receiving copy from the editor, laying the newsletter out on the computer, sending the completed file to the printer and proofing it before it is printed.

The NPSO *Bulletin* is an important part of NPSO. Someone with page layout skills looking for a way to contribute to the organization would be doing a valuable service in this position. If you are interested or have more questions, please contact Tanya Harvey at 541-937-1401 or Bulletin@NPSOregon.org.

Your Name In Lights!!!

by Cindy Roché, *Kalmiopsis* Editor

Well, maybe not in lights, but fame awaits you when you become an author in *Kalmiopsis*! Volume 15 of *Kalmiopsis* has been published, which means that I'm looking for articles for volume 16. Do you have an inside scoop on Oregon's native flora that you'd be willing to share with fellow plant enthusiasts? We normally publish two series articles: Plant of the Year, and Oregon Plants, Oregon Places, as well as articles about historical botanists and other features related to native plants or plant communities in Oregon. Look at recent issues of *Kalmiopsis* for length and content of articles; maximum length is 5,000 words. I would like to extend a particular invitation to authors writing about parts of Oregon not recently covered in *Kalmiopsis*. Contact me for a copy of "Instructions to Authors" or to place your name on a call list for reviewing new books. Cindy Roché, P.O. Box 808, Talent, OR 97540, kalmiopsis@npsoregon.org.



TANYA HARVEY

Pondweeds are aquatic plants that often have two different types of leaves. All have submerged leaves, and many also have leaves that float on the surface. Frequently growing in the middle of mucky-bottomed lakes, they can be hard to access for identification. Seen here growing at Bradley Lake in Douglas County, I believe this one is ribbon-leaf pondweed (Potamogeton epihydrus).

Blue Mountain

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

Cheahmill

For more information visit the chapter website: www.oregon-nativeplants.com

October 2, Thursday, 5–7 pm

Work Party: Native Plant Garden at the McMinnville Library. Please join us! This will be our final evening work party of the season. For more information please contact Susan Williams at helgesusan@comcast.net.

October 23, Thursday, 7 pm

Program: The Flora of King's Mountain. Jake Hurlbert has been documenting a year long ecological study of a semi-temperate rainforest. The model used is Kings Mtn. The mountain trailhead is located east of Forest Grove about 16 miles west of the Hwy 6 and Hwy 8 intersection (2.5 miles passed Elk Creek Campground). He will speak on ecological relationships of plants, fungi, and insects. This program is appropriate for anyone interested in studying nature and/or hiking. 7 pm in the Carnegie Room at the McMinnville Public Library, 225 N. Adams. For more information, please contact Erin Rainey at 503-435-8589 or erin.rainey@baileynursery.com.

Corvallis

To join the Corvallis e-mail list to receive notification of upcoming events, please e-mail mattbs@peak.org

October 13, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: What the Plants Reveal. Bob Ross will give an interactive slideshow about the massive debris flows emanating from the west side of Mt. Jefferson. How are plants affected by debris flows, what plants are adapted to living under these conditions, and what

can they tell us about the events of the past? You will get to hone your observational and thinking skills. We'll run out of time before you run out of interest! Guaranteed. Avery House Nature Center, Avery Park, Corvallis. Questions? matt@appliedeco.org.

October 24, Friday, 8 am

Field Trip: Mushroom Hike. Dan Luoma will lead this foray that you won't want to miss. Whether you are a novice or an experienced mushroom enthusiast, this trip with our knowledgeable expert will help improve your identification skills. The itinerary will depend on the weather and fungus

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 some 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.

abundance. Bring rain gear, a basket, waxed paper or bags, and lunch. Meet at the free OSU parking lot east of the Forage Seed Research Center (3450 Campus Way), Corvallis, at 8 am. For more information contact Dan Luoma at 541-752-8860.

Emerald

October 11, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Clear Lake Dunes County Park. Rob Weiss will lead a lichen tour through coastal pine forest. We will observe a diversity of lichens, some of them coastal endemics. We will walk 4 miles over relatively flat terrain. There are some wet areas. Bring lunch, raingear and handlens. Meet at 9 am at South Eugene High School or 10:30 am at Fred Meyer gas station in Florence. If you want to meet us in Florence or you have questions, please call Rob at 541-752-1362.

October 20, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: The Changing Nature of the Willamette Valley. As a result of enormous changes to the Valley since the arrival of EuroAmerican settlers, some former habitats and associated species have become rare. Preventing species invasion and restoring historic landscapes present challenges socially and philosophically, as well as ecologically. Botanist and field ecologist Bruce Newhouse will give us a look at regional conservation planning efforts, such as the Oregon Conservation Strategy, and show how they are reflected in specific local planning and restoration efforts. EWEB Training Room, 500 East 4th Ave., Eugene. Call 541-746-9478.

October 25, Saturday, 9 am–1 pm

Work Party: McKenzie River Trust Fifth Annual Green Island Tree Planting. Beautiful Green Island covers 800 acres where the McKenzie River joins the Willamette The event is fun and food is provided. Wear boots and dress for the weather. Drive to the

north end of the town of Coburg. Turn west and go 2 miles to intersection. Continue straight ahead on gravel road to Green Island. Look for signs. For more information call 541-345-2799.

November 17, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Applying Ecological Principles to Prairie Restoration Projects.

Trevor Taylor, an ecologist with the City of Eugene, discusses a theoretical, ecological framework for restoration of self-sustaining prairies in West Eugene. EWEB Training Room at 500 East 4th Avenue, Eugene. Call 541-746-9478.

High Desert

To be added to the e-mail list for upcoming events, please contact Maria Britton at mebritton@bendbroadband.com. For questions or more information, please contact Eileen Obermiller at hd_president@NPSOregon.org.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia

October 9, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: TBA. Topic and speaker to be announced in e-mail and local newspapers at the end of August.

North Coast

For information on the North Coast Chapter call Vivian Starbuck at 503-377-4141.

Portland

If you would like to receive the chapter's semi-official e-mail newsletter, The Calochortus, e-mail Don Jacobson at donjphoto@gmail.com.

October 9, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: The Flora of King's Mountain. Jake Hurlbert has been documenting a year long ecological study of a semi-temperate rain forest. The model used is Kings Mtn. The mountain trail head is located west of Forest Grove on Highway 6 (2.5 miles past Elk Creek Campground). He will speak on ecological relationships of plants, fungi,

and insects. This program is appropriate for anyone interested in studying nature and/or hiking. Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church on SE Belmont Street at SE 54th Avenue. Enter the church parking lot from SE 54th Avenue.

October 11, Saturday, TBA

Field Trip: Bald Mt. to McNeil Pt. on Mt. Hood.

Starting at the cutoff trail, we will hike into the Mt. Hood Wilderness past fantastic views from Bald Mt. and then proceed along the ridgeline along Trail #600 toward McNeil Pt. We'll be searching for late flowers, mushrooms and butterflies, plus the first hint of fall color, including mountain ash, huckleberries and western larch. Up to 8 miles total of moderate hiking, about 1500' elevation gain. Hike size will be limited. E-mail Paul Slichter at pslichte@teleport.com or call 503- 661-3292 for meeting time and location.

Siskiyou

October 16, Thursday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: The Joy of Sedges. Barbara Wilson of the Carex Working Group, co-author of their new *Field Guide to the Sedges of the Pacific Northwest*, will discuss recent developments in sedges, including their ecology and some ethnobotanical uses. Room 117 of the SOU Science Building. Contact Kristi Mergenthaler, 541-535-3659, for more information.

Umpqua Valley

Visit www.umpquavalley.npsoregon.org for more information on chapter activities.

October 9, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Program TBA, followed by our monthly business meeting. You can learn more about our chapter at our meetings or at the chapter website www.umpquavalley.npsoregon.org. We meet every second Thursday at 7 pm in room one at the Mercy Community Education Bldg, 2459 NW Stewart Parkway, Roseburg. Contact: Donna Rawson 541-459-2821.



Dwarf mountain daisy (Erigeron compositus) and cushion buckwheat (Eriogonum ovalifolium) at Crater Lake. To find species lists for Crater Lake, see article on following page.

TANVA HARVEY

October 19, Sunday, 10 am

Workday: VA Native Plant Garden.

Work continues with plans to enhance the garden with more and new varieties of native plants that are easy to grow. If you wish to learn more about our project, bring tools, gloves, and lunch and join us for a couple of hours of gardening. Parking is allowed in the employee parking area on weekends near the Transitional Care Unit (TCU). For more info contact Donna Rawson at 541-459-2821 or check our chapter website.

Willamette Valley

October 21, Tuesday, 7 pm

Program: Favorite Plants of Western Cascade Butterflies. Butterflies are very closely tied to plants, both for food for the caterpillars and nectar for adult butterflies. Tanya Harvey, NPSO *Bulletin* editor, artist, and photographer will introduce common butterflies of the region and the plants they prefer. Straub Environmental Learning Center (1320 A Street NE, near Olinger Pool). For more information, call John Savage after 7 pm at 503-399-8615.

**October 30, Thursday, 7 pm
November 1, Saturday, TBA**

Program & Field Trip: Mushroom and Lichen Identification. Jon Mayer and Josh Travers, Oregon Department of Forestry, will provide a basic introduction to the common mushrooms and lichens of the Willamette Valley. The October 30 class will be held at the Straub Environmental Learning Center (1320 A Street NE, near Olinger Pool). The time and place for the Saturday field trip will be announced at the class. The program, co-sponsored by the Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center and the Willamette Valley Chapter, costs \$5 and is open to the public. Please call 503-391-4145 to register.

William Cusick

Announcements about chapter meetings and field trips are also posted at www.williamcusick.npsoregon.org.

October 23, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: TBA. Baker County library, 2400 Resort Street, Baker City.

Web Resources for Klamath Flora

For those interested in learning more about the flora of Klamath County, there are several good resources available on the Web. Check out Rabe Consulting's website (www.rabeconsulting.com/proj_ed.html) for free downloadable books including *Common Plants of the Klamath Basin*, *Noxious Weeds of Klamath County* and *Special Status Plants of Klamath County*.

Just-published technical reports on surveys of wetlands at Crater Lake and other National Parks in 2005 and 2006 are now downloadable from the National Park Service at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/klmn/Inventories/Adamus_Wetland/Adamus_Wetland.cfm. Information is given about research on native plants, invasives, wildlife, geology, air quality and more. Click on "Species Lists" for lists of plants and animals of Crater Lake National Park, Oregon Caves National Monument and several other parks of southern Oregon and Northern California.

NPSO Items for Sale

NPSO Membership Directory lists names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail address of NPSO members (April 2007). Available from Jan Dobak, 2921 NE 25th Ave., Portland OR 97212. **\$4 postpaid.**

Vascular Plants of Lane County, Oregon: An Annotated Checklist. Emerald Chapter, NPSO. More than 1,740 species and varieties representing 39% of the 4,460 plants currently recognized by the Oregon Flora Project are listed with information on habitat, ecoregion, occurrence frequency, and native or non-native origin for every species. To order, send **\$15** payable to Emerald Chapter, NPSO to Lane County Checklist, Emerald Chapter, NPSO, PO Box 902, Eugene, OR 97440-0902.

"**Land of Umpqua**" T-Shirt featured at the 2005 Annual Meeting is still available. It depicts the delightful *Calochortus umpquaensis* illustrated by Dorothy Schattenkerk and in cream, purple, yellow, and green. The shirts are **\$16 plus \$5 shipping** and come in light gray, beige, pink or light blue in sizes M, L, and XL. To order call Ron Hatt at 541-863-7024.



A close-up view in bloom reveals the beauty of something even as normally unassuming as Baltic rush (Juncus balticus).

TANYA HARVEY

Mount Pisgah Arboretum

34901 Frank Parrish Rd. (I-5, exit 189 to Seavey Loop Rd.), SE of Eugene. For more information or to register, call 541-747-1504 or visit www.efn.org/~mtpisgah.

Fire Ecology Walk

October 4, Saturday, 10 am–noon

How does fire impact our ecosystem? Is fire a threat to be avoided at all costs, or a necessary natural process? Fire ecologist and firefighter Steve Clark leads a walk to answer these questions and more, as well as discussing the Arboretum's fire plan, what we will do if a fire starts in the park, and the pros and cons of controlled burns. \$5.

Finding and Harvesting Edible Mushrooms Workshop

October 12, Sunday, 10 am–4pm

Join eagle-eyed mushroom enthusiast Josiah Legler and learn where and when to look for edible mushrooms, how to get a collecting permit and where you need it, how to use a field guide to identify edibles, and how to harvest mushrooms using low-impact, sustainable methods. The class will meet at the Arboretum, then carpool to a mushrooming location about 45 minutes away. Dress for a walk in the woods and bring a mushroom guidebook (some will be available for sale), and a lunch. This class will prepare you to find and harvest mushrooms on your own, but we will respect the forest on the day of the workshop by not collecting mushrooms with a large group. \$20.

Tualatin Hills Nature Park Native Plant Sale

October 4, Saturday, 10 am–2 pm

15655 SW Millikan Blvd., Beaverton

Fall is the perfect time to plant natives. Select from a wide variety of trees, shrubs and flowering plants in all price ranges for every spot in your garden. Once established, most native plants need little care and water! All proceeds go toward future park improvements. Check the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District website at www.thprd.org for the, "Fall Native Plant Sale List," and links to native plant information. For more information call 503-629-6350.

Fall Fruits and Seeds Walk

October 18, Saturday, 2–4 pm

Enjoy the fall colors and learn about adaptive strategies of plants for dealing with the coming of winter, as well as the great variety of fruits and seeds and their diverse dispersal mechanisms. LCC botany professor Gail Baker leads this walk. \$5.

Mushroom Festival and Plant Sale

October 26, Sunday, 10 am–4 pm

Don't miss our annual fall celebration of mushrooms and the harvest season, co-presented by Mount Pisgah Arboretum, the Cascade Mycological Society and Lane Community College. This event is one of the largest mushroom displays on the West Coast, and includes a huge plant sale, a scarecrow contest, children's activities, hayrides, craft vendors, incredible mushroom-inspired food, fresh cider, music, wine, and more! Come out for a fun-filled day and support the Arboretum. Suggested donation: \$5/person or \$10/family. Call (541-747-3817 or e-mail mtpisgah@efn.org for more information and for how to volunteer.

Berry Botanic Garden

11505 SW Summerville Ave., Portland.
To register or to get more information, visit www.berrybot.org or call 503-636-4112x102.

Music & Art in the Garden

October 18, Saturday, 11 am–3 pm

The Berry Botanic Garden will host a show and sale of artwork by Oregon landscape artists. Painting demonstration by Michael Gibbons, acclaimed Oregon landscape artist. Wine tasting and sales offered by Willamette Valley Vineyards. Walk the native plant trail, rhododendron forest, and Garden of Rare Beauty, while enjoying relaxing live Celtic harp and acoustical guitar music. A portion of art sales will support the Garden's conservation, horticulture and education programs. Sponsored by Garden Works Inc. Admission at the door: \$8 adults, \$5 children

Botanical Illustration:

An Introduction to Pen and Ink

November 15–16, 8:30 am–4:30 pm

Two-day workshop! Learn the basics of creating botanical watercolors from professional botanist, botanical illustrator, and teacher, Dr. Linda Ann Vorobik. Through demonstrations and lectures, Linda will introduce participants to drawing skills, parts of the plant, what botanical illustration is when defined precisely, and pen & ink or watercolor techniques as used for painting plants. The workshop will combine lecture, demonstration and supervised and unsupervised drawing and painting time. A friendly critique of finished work will close the weekend. All skill levels are welcome: accomplished artists can learn additional botany skills and skilled botanists will learn painting techniques. \$150, Limit 15.

Siskiyou Field Institute Classes

For more information or to register for courses call 541-597-8530 or visit www.thesfi.org

Herbal Pharmacy

October 25, Saturday, 1–5 pm

Create your own fresh and dry herbal tinctures and oils. Learn which oils to use, how to choose and prepare plant materials, and applications of specific herbal remedies. Harvest herbs with classmates and prepare an herbal oil and a tincture. Take home the ability to make herbal oils for massage, healing baths, salves, lotions and creams. At Frog Farm, Cave Junction. Kid Friendly age 12+. Tuition: \$25.

Edible Mushrooms

October 25, Saturday, 7 pm

Morels, Boletes, Corals, Oysters, Chantrelles, Matsutake. We see them in the spring and fall, but do you know which to eat and which to avoid? Join mycologist Eric McEwen for an evening filled with information needed to identify edible mushrooms commonly found in southern Oregon. Eric has collected and identified mushrooms in the Northwest for more than 13 years and conducted surveys for rare and endangered mushroom species. This is a free event.

Landscaping with Northwest Native Plants

October 26, Sunday

Looking to surround your home with native plants? Learn which Northwest native trees, shrubs and flowers adapt well to life in a cultivated landscape. Discover which plants transplant well, offer seasonal color and easy maintenance, attract wildlife, and are available at nurseries. Visit gardens that successfully incorporate native plants. Kid Friendly age 12+. Tuition: \$4.

A Day in the Life of a Forester

October 26, Sunday

Are you curious about the information and strategies foresters use to manage forestlands? What are their intended outcomes? What scientific research and assumptions guide their planning? How do they sustain their supply in the long-term? Join two foresters, one managing Josephine County lands, another managing local timberlands, and learn about the work they do. Visit multiple sites that are managed with different objectives. Discuss and compare techniques foresters currently use. Tuition: \$40.

North Mountain Park Nature Center

620 N. Mountain Ave, Ashland, www.northmountainpark.org. To register visit <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

Nature and Landscape Drawing for Beginners

October 4 & 5, Saturday & Sunday, 9 am–2:30 pm

In this right-brain-oriented drawing class, author and illustrator Irene Brady will help you find your buried drawing capabilities and begin to create realistic drawings in the first hour. You'll learn how to use tools, tips and techniques to let you relax and enjoy the creative process as you increase your drawing skills. You'll sketch small natural items, then learn how to show their 3-dimensional shape with some basic shading. Then you'll learn how to design and draw landscapes with lakes, rivers and mountains. You'll practice creating grasses, textured rocks, trees and shrubs for your landscape foregrounds. This class will prepare you for Irene's intermediate drawing and watercolor pencil class. Encouraging critiques and sharing with other students will help improve your art. Take home a lavishly illustrated workbook full of exercises and techniques. Bring a bag lunch. All other supplies are provided. 12 & up. \$70 for two classes (includes all supplies). At The Grove, Otte Peterson, 1195 East Main St, Ashland.

NABA Butterfly Talk

Conservation of Taylor's Checkerspot

October 6, Monday, 7:30 pm
Refreshments at 7 pm

The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) of Eugene-Springfield welcomes Paul Severns, a researcher with years of experience in studying butterflies, now completing his doctorate at Oregon State University in Botany and Plant Pathology. Paul has been studying a rare butterfly, the Taylor's Checkerspot, in the Corvallis area. He is unraveling the complex current conditions in which this butterfly persists, in an effort to devise strategies to prevent its extinction. At different stages of its life cycle it uses a number of host plants. In Oregon, exotic plant invasion, and habitat loss and degradation have conspired to yield a suite of human-modified conditions under which the current populations now persist. In this talk, Paul will highlight the important interactions between exotic grasses, exotic and native larval hostplants, Taylor's Checkerspot's own microevolution, oviposition choice, and habitat conditions that are related to the butterfly's current survival and extinction. EWEB Training Center, 500 West 4th, Eugene. For more information contact Ellie Ryan at woodnymph3000@gmail.com.

Talk on How to Build a Bog Garden

Primulas, Gentians and Pitchers, Oh My!

October 7, Tuesday, 7 pm

The Emerald Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society will host a slide presentation and demonstration by NPSO Corvallis chapter member Loren Russell on how to build and plant a bog garden. Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St., Eugene. Door prizes and refreshments afterwards. Free to the public and all are welcome. For more information call Jim Regali at 541-484-1284.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

1/9/2008–9/12/08

Blue Mountain

Sean Currans

Cheahmill

Kelly Oates
Jeanne Rahier
Carolyn & Jacques Rendu
Susy Wolfson

Corvallis

Alsie Campbell
Georgeann Castor
Laura Ehret
Suzanne Fluharty
Sue Henneck
Toni Hoyman
Bob Llewellyn
Rob Massatti
Lon Otterby
Sandra Pepin
Heather Root
Erika A. Schoell
Jay Sexton
Robert & Kimberly Smith
Betty Sparks
Terri Tower
Jerilynn M. Webber

Emerald

Mieko Aoki
Ingrid Ford
Jereme M. Frank
Betsy Huffsmith
Lori Humphreys
Kathy Kelly
Stephanie Korschun
Erin Lamb
Land Management Strategies
Don Lown
Glenn & Terri Miller
Susan Orbeton
Ernst Schwintzer
Diane Steeck
Emily Steel
Sydney Stringer

High Desert

Ellen & Randy Jones
Basey Klopp
Judy Meier
Eileen Obermiller

Klamath Basin

Linda Miranda

Members At Large

Elizabeth P. Binney
Robert & Marcia Rivers Smith

Mid-Columbia

Andrew Merritt
Jude Russell
Pat Toy

Portland

City of Gresham
– Watershed Management
Jane Bardolf
Bonnie Bean Graham
Grace Dinsdale
Megan Hughes
Lawrence Jones
Jerome Magill
Robert Paulson
Charlene Petrie
Parker Pettus
Leo & Crystal Pillifant
Erin Riggs
Billy Don Robinson
Nicole Shores
Brenda H. Smith
Mary Ellen Smith
Steven Watkins
Kevin Weitemier

Siskiyou

Stephen Albertelli
Darren Borgias
Cynthia Edwards
Nathan Gale
Mavis Marney
Barbara & Tom Mathieson

Rich Nawa
Carol Nygren
Pamela Palmer
Marjorie Ratner
George Van Vechten
Jennifer Wicklund

Umpqua Valley

Susan Crews
Lana Graff
Carol Hanrahan
Carol Heath
Jennifer Helliwell
Jasmine Holt
Leslie Hosek
Stephen Johnston
Violette Landers
Laura Long
Sharon McGlothen
Jenny Moore
Kathleen Ross
Robert Ryan
Regine Snitzer
Tim & Cindi Stephanos
Rod Trotter

Willamette Valley

Gene Fiebich
Elizabeth Klicker
Tanya S. Roll

Wm. Cusick

Jerry Hustafa
Richard Kenton
Sandra Roth
Shelly Schmidt

Exotic Australian Tree Fern Discovered in Southern Oregon

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factors, this species does not become fertile until the trunks are substantial, several meters or more in length. Trunks are reported to 12 meters tall, 15 cm diameter, in the flora of Australia, where it is native.” The tallest plant of the Oregon three is probably no more than about two meters high.

While it is unknown how these plants may have first been introduced to this location, ferns can establish miles away from any fertile parent plant with their small, easily dispersible wind-borne spores. It is very possible that a cultivated garden plant somewhere in coastal southern Oregon could be the source. Cultivators of this tree fern species caution that special measures have to be taken to protect plants from below freezing temperatures. However, there are a few microclimate areas on the southern Oregon coast where temperatures probably do not fall significantly below freezing—which is considered lethal for *Sphaeropteris cooperi*. Since the fern was discovered in nature in 2007, I have now located it growing in cultivation approximately 12 miles to the south where two larger plants are growing against a commercial building in Brookings, Oregon and some fronds did possess fertile sori. Also, in Brookings I located a commercial nursery that sells this tree fern in one gallon cans.

Where to see it in Oregon

Along Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor, an Oregon State Park, pull off on the west side of Hwy. 101, immediately north of Miner Creek—which is signed on the highway and located midway between the 345 and 346 mile posts. A steep, downhill, ¼-mile trail leads to what Oregon State Parks calls “Secret Beach”. Here, the sand beach with rock arches and another botanically interesting small side canyon are best explored when the tide is at 1.5 feet or below. The easily observed Australian tree fern is located at the bottom of what a map at the trailhead terms a “Cat Trail.” While some attempt was made to look for more tree ferns farther



OREGON WILD

*The author's wife Kathy next to an Australian tree fern (*Sphaeropteris cooperi*) growing wild on the southern Oregon coast.*

up the canyon, the abundance of salmonberry bushes, increased fall stream flow, and overall rugged topography strongly limited physical as well as observational access.

When descending the trail from Hwy. 101, the first, and smallest, tree fern is across the canyon (south side) at a small, user-trampled overview on your left, shortly before you come to the beach. The fern there is on a vertical cliff face and immediately down stream of a 12', free-falling waterfall, which lies below an erosion-control, concrete lining of the upper portions of Miner Creek. All *Sphaeropteris cooperi* plants seem to be below this concrete lining, a structure not obvious to the casual observer. Binoculars will help to identify this first smaller-sized tree fern across the narrow canyon.

The largest and most accessible fern, from which specimen material for identification was collected, is growing just above the only small foot bridge over Miner Creek, located a short way from the beach. Once you reach the final trail spur down to Secret Beach,

continue to the left, starting back uphill (east) but as though you were going to proceed on the Oregon Coast Trail farther south. In another 50 feet, immediately across the foot bridge but observable from either side, is the large tree fern to the left of the trail. From here continue uphill on this same trail for 25 yards to a short spur to the left. Here one can easily view another fairly large tree fern growing just above the bottom of the creek's north bank. This spot could also potentially be accessed by hiking up the stream bottom above the footbridge during times of low stream flow.

The author thanks Dr. Alan Smith, University of California, Berkeley, and Dr. Kenton Chambers, Oregon State University, for help in the preparation of this report.

New Field Guide to Sedges of the Pacific Northwest Available

The Carex Working Group is pleased to announce the publication of the *Field Guide to the Sedges of the Pacific Northwest*. The book is an illustrated guide to all 164 species, subspecies, and varieties of *Carex* that occur in Oregon and Washington. It contains identification keys, descriptions, color photographs, and distribution maps for each species, along with information about sedge ecology, habitat, and management.

Sedges are key members of many Northwest ecosystems, performing critical roles in wetlands, prairies, savannas, steppes, and forests. They are often the dominant ground cover in flood plains, along stream banks, and in wet meadows and marshes. Their extensive, fibrous root systems prevent erosion by binding soils, while their dense foliage traps sediment, making them critical elements in the restoration of wetland and riparian systems. Sedges can be challenging to identify with differences between species based on small, technical characters.

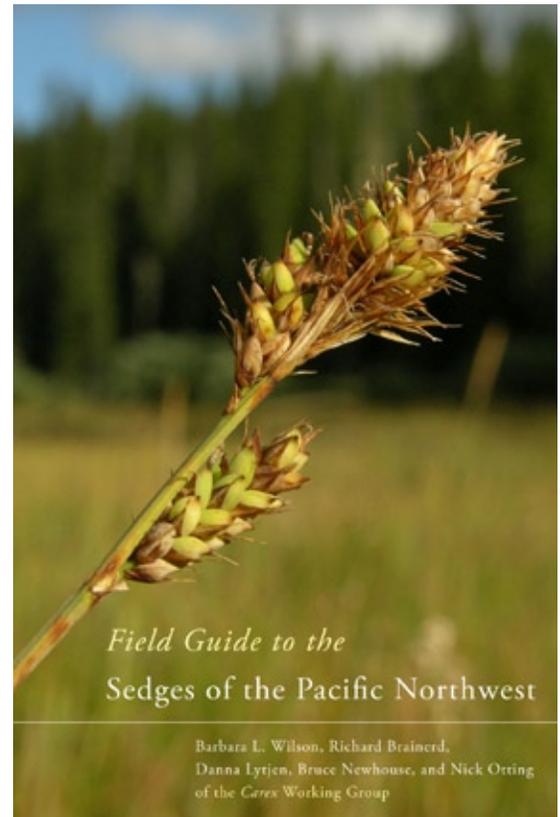
After nearly fifteen years of research, Oregon botanists of the Carex Working Group have written this comprehensive guide, providing users with helpful tools and tips for identifying the plants in this challenging group. Information about sedge ecology, habitat management and restoration, ethnobotanical uses, and propagation

enhances the guide's utility. The *Field Guide* provides a comprehensive and essential resource for botanists, land managers, restoration ecologists, and plant enthusiasts. And, as the genus *Carex* becomes increasingly important amongst landscapers, nurseries, and gardeners, the guide will serve as a handy tool for choosing Northwest natives for the garden.

The Carex Working Group is Barb Wilson, Dick Brainerd, Nick Otting and Bruce Newhouse, all active members of NPSO. Danna Lytjen, much-missed member and former president of NPSO's Emerald Chapter, passed away before the book was completed. The CWG came together in 1993 to map the distribution of Oregon's sedges and incorporated in 2002. In 1999, they published NPSO's first Occasional Paper, *The Atlas of Oregon Carex*. In addition to writing about and photographing sedges, the CWG contracts with public agencies and private companies to do plant inventories, plant identification workshops, and taxonomic research on plants of the western U.S.

The field guide is available at the Oregon State University Bookstore, University of

Oregon Bookstore, Powell's, University Bookstore in Seattle, Flora & Fauna, and Elliott Bay, among others. It is also available directly from Oregon State University Press by calling 1-800-426-3797 or by going to <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/press/e-f/FieldGuideSedges.html> and then clicking on "Secure online ordering form."



Flora of North America Update

by Rhoda Love, Emerald Chapter

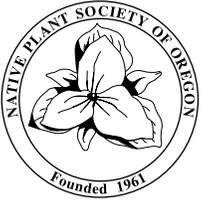
According to the latest *Flora of North America Newsletter*, "...2008 has been fruitful for the Flora of North America project." Volumes 7 and 8 of the Flora will be published this year. Volume 7 will cover eleven families from the willows to the mustards and will include 125 genera, and approximately 919 species. This volume is scheduled for publication late this year.

Volume 8, which includes 19 families including Ericaceae, Saxifragaceae, Paeoniaceae, Theaceae and Crassulaceae, is scheduled for delivery to Oxford University Press late this summer.

Volume 9 is on track to be published in early 2009. This will be the long-awaited volume on the Rosaceae and will also include the Crossosomataceae and Picramniaceae for a total of 74 genera and around 687 species. I am especially eager to see the treatment of the Rosaceae, as many of my botanical friends such as Chris Campbell, Peter Zika, Tim Dickinson, Jim Phipps, Barbara Ertter and others have worked on various genera in this large family.

This issue of the *FNA Newsletter* also includes advance information on Volumes 10 through 13 as well as Volume 17, which will encompass the Scrophulariaceae "in the broad sense."

For more information, to subscribe to the free *Flora of North America Newsletter*, or to access online versions of volumes already published, visit the FNA website: www.fna.org.



Send change of address notices
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GREAT NEWS—in mid-August, the Oregon Flora Project received a grant from the John and Betty Soreng Environmental Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation!

The award is for \$105,300, and is targeted for general operating expenses for the 2008–2009 fiscal year. We have rehired our staff members, and are again working on the many elements of the Project. The amount, which equals last year's budget, was presented "to keep the valuable and far-reaching work of the Flora Project alive," said the Foundation. With base funding for the next year secured, we are now freed to expand into activities and seek funding opportunities that will begin our new *Flora of Oregon*, as well as complete the checklist, photo gallery, and morphological work that will provide immediate tools for botanists. Thank you, Oregon Community Foundation, for your generous vote of confidence in the importance of

OFFP's work! It will surely serve as an inspiration for others to join in supporting the push to complete a *Flora of Oregon*.

Checks can be made out to the **Agricultural Research Foundation** with "Oregon Flora Project-4482" on the memo line and mailed to:

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