



Bulletin

of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 43, No. 3

APRIL 2010

Australian Wildflowers: Unique, Beautiful and Diverse

by Gail Baker and Clayton Gautier

Snottygobble, emu bush, prickly poison, bitter quandong, Goodeiaceae, Haemodoraceae, and Dasygogonaceae. Seeing unfamiliar plants and traveling in landscapes often dominated by eucalyptus, acacia, or grass trees excited and challenged our Northern Hemisphere plant ecology and botanical knowledge daily as we explored plant communities in Western Australia (WA).

Why would plant-geeks visit Australia? This part of the globe draws plant enthusiasts with its stunning spring wildflower displays. The Southwest Australia Floristic Region (SWAFR) is internationally recognized for its exceptional plant diversity (Hopper and Gioia, 2004). It offered us new perspectives on plant evolution, speciation, and ecological distributions. Because many of the species are restricted to the Southern Hemisphere, we were also able to broaden our knowledge of



PHOTO BY GAIL BAKER & CLAYTON GAUTIER

Banksia blooms in colorful, very large conelike clusters

plants groups.

Recognizing the flora. Reading articles and studying field guides

provided a good foundation and preparation for visiting an unfamiliar place, but nothing compared to the experience of being immersed in the landscape on a daily basis, continually referencing our books and articles and finding lots and lots of help!

September is wildflower month in WA, celebrated throughout the region in botanic gardens, nature reserves and town wildflower exhibitions (WA Wildflower Events). These events and the local plant ecologists we met during our visit, August 27 to October 6,

continued on page 8

Last Chance to Register for Annual Meeting

The deadline for registration for the Native Plant Society of Oregon's annual meeting in Clarno, sponsored by the High Desert Chapter, is April 16. The last day for refunds is April 23.

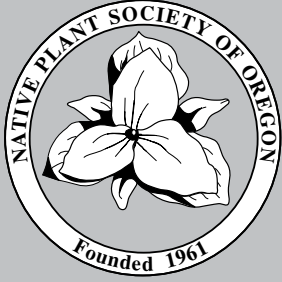
Information about the meeting, including cost, accommodations, field trips and other events, is available at the NPSO Web site, www.npsoregon.org, or in the February and March issues of the *Bulletin*.

The organizers are offering stainless steel water bottles with the NPSO logo and "High Desert Chapter 2010 Annual Meeting, Clarno, Oregon" on them. These double-walled, 16-ounce bottles cost \$18.

For more information, or to purchase a water bottle, contact High Desert Chapter President Eileen Obermiller at www.DappledEarth.com or 541-350-7436.

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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 npsos

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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Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

Editor: Fran Gardner
Layout Artist: Jocelyn Duffy

ISSN 0884-599. Published 10 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 and the Dec/Jan issue which is November 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.

Oregon Botany: A New Film on David Douglas and the Online Oregon Encyclopedia

by Rhoda Love, Emerald Chapter

Of interest to Oregon botanists will be the completion this summer of *Finding David Douglas*, a film financed by the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission. A preview of the work, filmed in Britain, Canada, Oregon, and Hawaii, will be at the World Forestry Center in Portland April 8 (time to be announced). Oregonians viewing the film should be able to recognize sites such as the Columbia River, Finley Wildlife Refuge, and parts of Douglas County. NPSO's Ed Alverson, an expert on David Douglas and Willamette Valley ecology, was present at Finley and perhaps will be seen in the movie. There is more information at: www.ochcom.org.

As David Douglas is one of the best known of Oregon's early botanists, it is curious that he is not yet included in the new online Oregon Encyclopedia, a lapse we hope will soon be corrected. However, please visit the Encyclopedia's Web site, www.oregonencyclopedia.org, where you will find interesting entries on other Oregon botanists, trees, and plants by NPSO's Frank Lang and Susan Kephart. I have several biographies of plant collectors posted as well. Many more entries on botanists, vascular plants, rare taxa, fungi, and bryophytes are needed. Information at the Oregon Encyclopedia Web site explains how you can participate.



Lithograph of David Douglas originally printed in Curtis's Botanical Magazine in June 1836. Courtesy Linnean Society, London



Penstemon davidsonii at Crater Lake National Park. Davidson's Penstemon is a subalpine penstemon and a member of the figwort family.

TAMARA HARVEY

NPSO CALENDAR

Blue Mountain

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

Cheahmill

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

April 22, Thursday, 7 pm

Program: Amazing Conifers of the World. Dr. John Syring of Linfield College will take us on a tour of the worldwide diversity of conifers. Parasitic conifers, behemoths, arctic and tropical conifers—the diversity is astounding! We will also take an in-depth look at Oregon conifers. Syring is past president of the Corvallis Chapter and served as coordinator of the Oregon Flora Project in 2001. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 N.W. Adams St. (Highway 99W). Information: 503-835-1042, marna@onlinemac.com.

May 1, Saturday, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Annual wildflower show. There will be a native plant sale and a chance to see samples of native plants that bloom in Yamhill County. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 N.W. Adams St. (Highway 99W). Information: 503-835-1042, marna@onlinemac.com.

May 27, Thursday, 7 pm

Program: Atop and Around Steens Mountain: A 20-year Retrospective. Dr. Kareen Sturgeon, past president of the Cheahmill Chapter, will show slides and speak about her 20 years of botanizing in the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge area. As professor of evolution and botany at Linfield College, she led many field trips to the Malheur area, including Steens Mountain, the Alvord Desert, Mickey Basin, and Cottonwood Creek. You will learn about the amazing diversity of wildflowers found in juniper woodland, shrub steppe, and desert scrub vegetation zones, in lithosols (“Indian grocery stores”) and on alkaline

playas, and the plants’ adaptations to these challenging environments. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 N.W. Adams St. (Highway 99W). Information: 503-835-1042, marna@onlinemac.com.

Corvallis

If you have questions about any of these programs or would like to join the Corvallis chapter e-mail list, contact Laurel Moulton at lamoulto@yahoo.com.

April 10, Saturday, 10 am–noon

Native plant garden cleanup. Come with gloves, tools, and a snack or lunch item to share for a potluck. We’ll be

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.

beautifying the native plant garden at the Avery House Nature Center. Please join us for this annual spring event. Information: Esther McEvoy: 541-754-0893.

April 12, Monday, 7:30–9 pm

Program: Relationships between local plants and wildlife. Don Boucher and Lisa Millbank from the Neighborhood Naturalist Program will be joining us for an evening filled with native plants and local wildlife. We’ll explore the ways plants and animals interact, including local examples of the roles animals play in seed dispersal, pollination, and herbivory; the ways plants protect themselves from animals; parasitism and more. Enjoy some videos of animals and plants they have taken around our area and learn about the remarkable ways plants and animals complement one another in our bioregion. Avery House Nature Center at Avery Park. Information: Laurel Moulton, lamoulto@yahoo.com

April 17, Saturday, 10:30 am

Field Trip. Phil Hays will lead a field trip to McDowell Creek to look for *Scoliopos hallii*, Oregon fetid adder-tongue, a beautiful and unusual member of the lily family. Meet at 10:30 at the parking lot across from the Beanery on Monroe Street. Bring a lunch and be prepared for weather ... rain, mud, or sun! Information and registration: Esther McEvoy: 541-754-0893.

Emerald

The Emerald Chapter Web site has a new address: <http://emerald.npsoregon.org>. Though the address is different, the site still has all of the latest chapter events, plant lists and botanical information about Lane County plants and the people who love them.

April 3, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Bryophytes and Spring Flora of Sweet Creek Falls. Rob Weiss leads a tour of Sweet Creek to observe bryophytes (mosses) and other plants.

The hike is 2 to 4 miles RT and one of the most accessible areas to observe bryophyte diversity. The lily *Erythronium revolutum* will be in bloom. Bring lunch, hand lens, and rain gear. Meet at South Eugene High School at 9 a.m. or at the lower Sweet Creek trailhead at 10 a.m. Information: 541-752-1362.

April 19, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Touring One of the World's Biodiversity Hotspots—the Southwest Australian Floristic Region.

Presenters: Gail Baker and Clay Gautier. The Southwest Australia Floristic Region (SWAFR) is internationally recognized for its exceptional plant diversity. It's also renowned for its stunning spring wildflower displays. Taking a close look at the plants of the kwongan heath; mallee shrublands; and wandoo, jarrah and Karri woodlands, discussion will include important botanical reserves including Badgingarra National Park, Kalbarri National Park, Stirling Range National Park, Fitzgerald River National Park and Dryandra Woodland Reserve. We'll also consider the question of how a landscape with so little topographic relief and such old, highly weathered soils can have so many species. EWEB Training Room, 500 E. Fourth Ave., Eugene. Information: 541-344-8377. (See "Australian Wildflowers" in this issue of the Bulletin.)

April 28, Wednesday, 11 am

Field Trip: Wildflower Stroll in Commemoration of Native Plant Appreciation Week at Mount Pisgah (Howard Buford Recreation Area). Rhoda Love will lead a walk to see spring flora at the arboretum. From Lane Community College go east of I-5 for 2 miles via Seavey Loop Road. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Free. Information: 541-747-3817.

May 1, Saturday, 2 pm

Springtime Special: Moon Mountain Park. Where else can you see four species of native biscuit root growing 10 minutes from downtown Eugene? Or see more than 100 other native plant species and 36 native species of birds and butterflies within just a few acres? And if that isn't enough, there

are rugged old Oregon white oaks and spectacular views of the Willamette River and Spencer Butte. Moon Mountain Park is a well-kept secret. Tour of the park with naturalist Bruce Newhouse includes a "rogue" bike trail that was constructed through a sensitive area, information about Eugene's restoration efforts, and discussion on how to protect fragile resources. Plant enthusiasts, mountain bikers (walking), park lovers, wildflower photographers and everyone else are welcome (but no pets, please). Less than 2 miles total hiking, but trail is steep in sections. Followup discussion will occur at McMenemy's at 19th and Agate. Preview the hike at <http://brucen.zenfolio.com> (click on "Places") and the 2008 species lists at www.salixassociates.com/resources.html. Meet at 2 p.m. at the Amazon Community Center to carpool. Information: 541-521-0962.

May 9, Sunday, 12 pm to 5 pm

Mother's Day Native Garden

Tour. Join us for the second annual native plant garden tour in Eugene, featuring a variety of Willamette Valley native plants and habitat types in several private gardens. Visit one or all in any order at your own pace. Homeowners and NPSO members will be available at each site to answer questions. Garden descriptions with plant lists and a map will be available to download from the Emerald Chapter's Web site, www.emerald.npsoregon.org. Carpooling, biking, and walking are encouraged as parking will be limited.

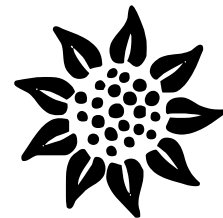
May 17, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting. Jennifer Lippert, forest botanist from the Willamette National Forest, will present an overview of the botany program focusing on terrestrial restoration and invasive species projects and ending in a discussion about potential volunteer opportunities. EWEB Training Room, 500 E. Fourth Ave., Eugene. Information: 541-746-9478.

May 22, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Heckletooth Mountain.

Just outside Oakridge, this low-elevation mountain trail passes through several flowery meadows, forest, and some interesting recovering burned areas before reaching rocky viewpoint at the top. A wide variety of plants includes *Madia elegans*, *Balsamorhiza deltoidea*, *Lomatium macrocarpum*, *Arnica cordifolia*, and *Astragalus umbraticus*. The trail is less than 3 miles round trip with 1,200 feet of elevation gain, but there are several steep stretches. Note: rain date is Sunday, May 23. Meet at South Eugene High School at 8:30 a.m. or the Lowell covered bridge at 9 a.m. Information and registration: Tanya Harvey, 541-937-1401 or Wild.Iris@att.net. Co-sponsored by the North American Rock Garden Society.



Plan Now for Native Plant Appreciation Week

Oregon's sixth annual Native Plant Appreciation Week will be April 25-May 1, 2010. It's just in time to help you get geared up for the annual meeting, May 14-16.

Native Plant Appreciation Week is an excellent opportunity to educate the public about the nature and significance of native flora. Your local chapter is encouraged to sponsor public outreach programs such as demonstrations, hikes, workshops and plant sales. Be sure you get your event to the NPSO calendar and that you check the calendar for exciting activities sponsored by other chapters!

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.

April 5, Monday, 6:30 pm

Presentation. Linda Gilpin, local mushroom expert will talk and share her slides. Brooks Room, Bend Library. Information: eileen@DappledEarth.com.

April 17, Saturday, time to be determined

Hike: Alder Springs. M.A. Wilson will lead participants on a hike to Alder Springs. Call her at 541-389-0663 or e-mail mawillson@bendboradband.com for details.

May 14–16

The High Desert Chapter hosts the NPSO annual meeting at Clarno. See the March NPSO *Bulletin* or the Web page at www.npsoregon.org for details.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia

To sign up for e-mail notices of impromptu field trips and detailed information about upcoming meetings, send e-mail to Hanna Metzger (hannam@gorge.net).

April 8, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting. Final planning for the annual wildflower show, which is to be held on Sunday, April 25, in Mosier. Come and join in the fun of putting this show together. Boardroom, Building 1, Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles.

April 25, Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm

Annual Mid-Columbia Chapter wildflower show. Plants identified and arranged primarily by location, collected from sites on both the Washington and

Oregon sides of the Columbia River and including a slide show of each site. American Legion Hall, Mosier.

North Coast

For information on the North Coast Chapter call Janet Stahl at 503-842-8708.

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.

April 8, Thursday, 7 pm

Program: "Adaptations of Oregon Native Plants." Accomplished artist, skilled botanist and photographer Tanya Harvey will present a visually stunning program with great images. As Tanya says, "I've got sections on pollination, carnivorous plants, bulbs, hairy leaves, mycotrophic plants, and so on." Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, Southeast Belmont at 54th Avenue. Information: Billy Don Robinson, 503-515-1708.

April 3, Saturday, 10 am

Walk: Camassia Natural Area. Visit globally imperiled Willamette Valley oak ecological system and several rare species at TNC Camassia Natural Area in West Linn. Short walk (about 1–1.5 miles) through small preserve. Meet at entrance at 10 a.m. Information and directions: erin.riggs14@gmail.com

April 10, Saturday

Walk: Catherine Creek Labyrinth, Coyote Wall Loop. Lovely hike through basalt, grassland, and woodland; great wildflowers. About 5 miles and 1,000 feet of elevation gain. The number of participants is limited. Signup and carpool information: Don Jacobson, 503-235-6234, donjphoto@gmail.com.

May 1, Saturday, 9 am to lunchtime

Walk: Cooper Mountain Nature Park. Explore off-trail wildflower areas with Billy Don Robinson. Among its 230 acres of south-facing slope, CMNP has

truly wonderful examples of open oak woodlands and prairie, featuring some species found nowhere else in the Portland region, as well as the showcase species pale larkspur and checkermallow. We will also find a lovely assortment of birds (western bluebirds, for starters) and other animals, so bring binoculars. Information and carpool signup: Billy Don, 503-515-1708

Siskiyou

The Siskiyou chapter e-mails meeting reminders and last-minute information such as field trip cancellations. To be added to the list, please send your e-mail address to oregonbk@mind.net.

April 15, Thursday, 7 pm

Pre-meeting herbarium opportunity. The Southern Oregon University Herbarium, Room 206 in the Science Building, will be opened by NPSO volunteers for a half hour before the April and May chapter meetings. To arrange access at other times call the curator, Steve Jessup, 541-552-6804, or Connie Battaile, 541-488-0368.

April 15, Thursday, 7:15 pm

Program: Siskiyou Bumblebees. The Siskiyou Mountains of northern California and southern Oregon are home to a rich array of large, fuzzy looking bees, generally with yellow and black coloration, busily visiting flowers: bumblebees. Dr. Pete Schroeder will discuss bumblebee natural history, conservation issues, and how to identify common and endemic species. Southern Oregon University, Science Bldg., RM 171. Refreshments at 7:15 pm, meeting and program at 7:30. Kristi Mergenthaler, 541-941-3744. Note: Campus security locks the Science Building promptly at 7:30. Plan to come a few minutes early to enjoy the refreshments and good company—and so you can get in!

April 18, Sunday, 9:30 am

Field trip: Rough and Ready Creek. Suzanne Vautier and Rose Kilpatrick will lead an easy hike on rocky ground at Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside. There should be a lot of rare wildflowers

blooming then. Suzanne will also give a short tutorial on *Alyssum murale* and *Alyssum corsicum* and the potential threat these invasive species pose to the Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside and the Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). This is not sweet alyssum, *Lobularia maritima*, but rather two little-documented introduced species that have taken root in local serpentine soils. Meet at the wayside parking area on Highway 199. Carpooling from Ashland: meet at behind the Oil Stop at 7:30 a.m. Carpooling from Grants Pass: meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot next to the Taco Bell at 8:30 a.m. Information: Suzanne Vautier at gone_fishing@frontiernet.net or 541-592-3939.

April 24, Saturday, 9 am

Field trip: Illinois Valley “Serpentine Surprise.” Join hike leader Norm Jensen to search out serpentine endemics and southwestern Oregon spring flowers in the botanically rich Illinois Valley. Destination dependent on where the plants are best. Meet in Selma at the south side of Ray’s Market parking lot on Highway 199 between Grants Pass and Cave Junction at 9 a.m. Information: normjensen@gmail.com.

April 25, Sunday, time TBA

Field trip: Whetstone Savanna Preserve. Join The Nature Conservancy ecologist Keith Perchemlides and Molly Morrison for a tour of the ODOT mitigation bank and Whetstone Savanna Preserve. This is a great opportunity to see the vernal pools, prairie openings, and oak wood habitats without driving between sites. The vernal pool-specific species are likely to be in bloom, and interested participants can help Keith with an informal monitoring project. 12 person limit. Information and registration: Sasha Joachims, sasharain71@gmail.com or 541-661-3492.

May 1, Saturday, 8 am

Field trip: Table Rock for Native Plant Appreciation Week. Sasha Joachims will lead a hike up Lower Table Rock to enjoy the transition of habitats and resulting plant diversity. It is 1.74 miles to the top,

moderately difficult and 1/2 mile longer than Upper Table Rock. Plan four hours for the round trip; bring water, sturdy shoes, and snacks or lunch. Water is not available along the trail or at the trailhead. Information and directions: Sasha Joachims, sasharain71@gmail.com or 541-661-3492

Umpqua Valley

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

April 8, Thursday, 7 pm

Program: Bio-fuel as an alternative energy source. M. A. Hansen, president of member-owned Umpqua Bio-Alternatives Co-op (UBAC) of Roseburg will show how energy can be produced from the biomass in your neighborhood to run transportation vehicles using nonnative, often invasive plants such as blackberries, Scotch broom, wild plums, and gorse, as well as lawn trimmings. Room 1, Mercy Community Education building, 2459 N.W. Stewart Parkway, Roseburg. The public is welcome. Contact: M. A. Hansen, mah444@aol.com or 541-863-8111.

April 24 & 25, Saturday & Sunday, 9 am to 5 pm

Glide Wildflower Show and plant sale. Kick off Native Plant Appreciation week at the best flower display in the county. Folks come from around the world just for this show. Don’t miss it, you won’t be disappointed. It will give you a better appreciation of the diversity and beauty of our native flora. <http://www.glidewildflowershow.org>. Be sure to visit our NPSO booth. Information: Donna Rawson, 541-459-2821.

Willamette Valley

Contact Lisa Olivares, 503-391-4145, or John Savage, 503-399-8615 for program information.

April 10, Saturday, 10 am–noon

Wildflower Walk. Members of the Willamette Chapter will lead a

wildflower walk through Bush Park and Deepwood Estate. Nearly two dozen native wildflowers will be in bloom. Participants should meet at the Deepwood parking lot off of 12th Street. Free and open to the public. Information: John Savage after 7 p.m. at 503-399-8615.

April 27 & 28, Wednesday & Thursday, 7–8:30 p.m. & May 1, Saturday

Three-part wildflower identification class and field trip. Learn how to identify common flowers of forest, field, woodland, and riparian areas native to Oregon in a series sponsored by the Friends of Straub Environmental Learning Center and the Willamette Valley Chapter. Morris Johnson, professor emeritus at Western Oregon University, will explain the basics of plant identification, focusing on plant families. Evening classes are at Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A St. NE, next to Olinger Pool, near North Salem High. Details about the May 1 field trip will be announced in the classes. Series costs \$5 and is open to the public. Registration is required: 503-391-4145.

William Cusick

Visit our Web site at <http://williamcusick.npsoregon.org> for updates and general information.

April 22, Thursday, 6 pm

Chapter meeting. Plantworks Nursery, 69465 Lantz Lane in Cove. Sandy Roth will give a tour of the nursery and discuss the intricacies of growing native plants for restoration purposes.

OTHER EVENTS

Wildflower Walk in Ashland

April 25, Sunday, 10 am to noon

Jim Duncan of the Siskiyou Chapter and Marcia Wineteer of the Bureau of Land Management will lead a wildflower walk in Oredson-Todd Woods. Learn to identify spring wildflowers. Bring hiking shoes, water, and a snack. Register online at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com> or call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

Scholarship Offered for Plant Systematics/Ecology Study

The Willamette Valley chapter will once again award scholarships to third-year students who enroll in plant systematics or plant ecology at an Oregon college or university for the 2010-2011 school year. Awards of \$1,000 each will come from the Jean Davis Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Augusta Rockefeller Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The rules for both scholarships are identical, so only one application is necessary to be eligible for either scholarship award. Only one award will be given to any one candidate. Applications deadline is June 1. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!

Rules for Scholarship Awards

1) Scholarships are available to students in Oregon colleges who are planning their major study in plant systematics or plant ecology.

2) Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1000 to full-time students who will have completed at least two years of satisfactory college work by July 1. Graduate students may be eligible if they meet all qualifications, except that they need not be full-time students.

3) Awards include a certificate and a check in the amount of the award, which is submitted to the school of choice to be used toward tuition within the following academic year.

4) If an award recipient fails to enroll, changes his or her major, or leaves the school before completing the period for which the award was granted, the full amount or unused part of the money shall be returned to the memorial scholarship fund.

5) Applicants are required to submit:
a) In their own words, a statement

of academic and career intent.

b) Two letters of reference from persons able to judge the student's ability to successfully complete study in the area of plant systematics or plant ecology.

c) Full academic record (transcript).

6) The Scholarship Committee Chair must receive all applications, together with items listed in rule 5, no later than June 1. The award will be made by July 1.

7) Scholarships cannot be granted to Scholarship Committee members or their relatives.

Please mail applications and the required documentation to:

Thomas Jenkins
Scholarship Committee Chairman
14380 Salt Creek Road
Dallas, OR 97338

Now Available: Native Plant Society of Oregon Occasional Paper 3

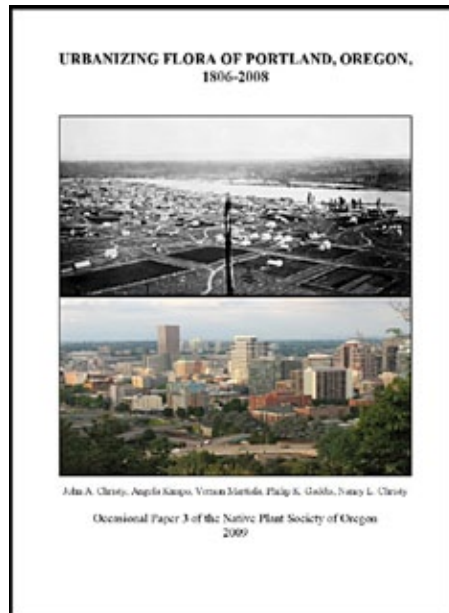
Urbanizing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1806-2008

NPSO Occasional Paper 3: 1-315.

by John A. Christy, Angela Kimpo, Vernon Marttala, Philip K. Gaddis, and Nancy L. Christy (2009)

This compilation of the vascular plants of the Portland-Vancouver area analyzes changes in the region's vegetation that have occurred since 1806. A total of 1,556 taxa in 125 families are represented in a catalog that compares historical conditions with those of today. Based on herbarium specimens, publications, and unpublished manuscripts, it tracks the changing fortunes of native and exotic species shaped by an expanding urban environment. It includes a history of botany in Portland, a gazetteer of historical and modern place names, botanical miscellanea from 19th and early 20th century Portland, and lists of rare species for use by local planners and land managers.

Price: \$15 postpaid, checks payable to Native Plant Society of Oregon.



Orders: Prepaid only
Contact: John Christy
7050 SW Canyon Crest Drive
Portland, OR 97225-3623
john.christy@oregonstate.edu
Please remember to include your mailing address and telephone number.

Board Meeting Notes

by David Barts

The February 6 board meeting at Lane Community College in Eugene was well-attended, with many local Eugene (Emerald Chapter) members showing up.

The board agreed to support a Xerces Society letter advocating protecting native bumblebee. It also passed the 2010 NPSO budget and approved Ben Grady's request for a field research grant continuation.

Members interested in a more detailed account of what transpired at the meeting may contact David Barts, NPSO secretary, for a copy of the meeting minutes. His e-mail is secretary@npsoregon.org.



Australian Wildflowers, continued from page 1
2009, were invaluable resources.

Before leaving Perth for a camping excursion that took us 2,940 miles (4,732 km) around WA, we spent time at Kings Park Botanic Garden. The garden was in full flower, with labeled floral displays organized by floristic regions, endangered plants, and plant families. Mark Webb, chief executive officer, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority; and Kingsley Dixon, science director at Kings Park, introduced us to the park's plant research facilities and programs.

During our travels we were fortunate to attend six wildflower exhibitions, where local volunteers spent time telling us about the regional flora and history. Flower displays at all exhibitions were labeled and conservation issues highlighted. At town visitors centers, we found abundant maps to local nature trails and reserves where we could find flowering plants. Serendipity connected us with prominent botanical illustrators Patricia Negus (a guidebook to the Cape to Cape Track region south of Perth) and Celia Rosser (*The Banksias*). These resources and our field excursions helped us gradually become familiar with this exceptional region.



Gail with *Kingia*, grass trees, in the *Dasyopogonaceae*

PHOTO BY CLAYTON GAUTHIER



The wreath flower, *Lechenaultia macrantha*, a "tourist destination" flower along WA's "wildflower way."

PHOTO BY GAIL BAKER & CLAYTON GAUTHIER

Diversity, diversity, diversity!

Two of Australia's largest angiosperm families, Myrtaceae and Proteaceae, have tree or shrub growth forms. The 77 genera of Myrtaceae include *Eucalyptus* with 600 species. One genus, *Actinodium*, superficially resembles a daisy, reminding us not to be overconfident about our identifications.

Two genera stand out for their beauty. *Verticordia* often decorated the kwongan heath with prolific flowering in stunning yellows, reds, or pinks. Flowers look feathery due to the fringed perianth. *Darwinia*, mountain bells, named to commemorate Charles Darwin's grandfather Erasmus, has 60-70 species of evergreen shrubs confined to SWAFR (Corrick and Fuhrer, 2009). The flowers, often enclosed in large red bell-like bracts, were a highlight for us in the Stirling Range.

Proteaceae is an old lineage with species distribution patterns thought to have existed prior to the breakup of Gondwana (Clarke and Lee, 2006). This family reaches peak diversity in WA and includes *Persoonia*, called snottygobble because the edible seeds are surrounded by mucus. The genera *Banksia*, *Dryandra*, *Grevillea*, and *Hakea* have blooms in colorful and

sometimes very large conelike clusters at ground level or high above the ground on branch tips, attracting bird and marsupial pollinators. While studying floral morphology with students in Dr. Kristina Lemson's botany class at Edith Cowan University, we learned about a floral structure in *Grevillea* called a pollen-presenter. Pollen, although formed in the anthers (male structures), is presented to pollinators at the end of the style (female structure).

Goodeniaceae, a family with unforgettable, intense clear blue to deep red flowers, often with winged petals producing fan-shaped flowers, are easily recognized. The end of the style in this family also presents the pollen on hairy margins (indusium). The wreath flower, *Lechenaultia macrantha*, is a "tourist destination" along WA's "wildflower way." Its prostrate floral display forms a perfect halo encircling the vegetative part of the shrub.

WA's floral emblem is red and green kangaroo paw, *Anigozanthos manglesii*, in the monocot family Haemodoraceae. The pawlike flower structures with furry covering in sharp colors of reds, green, oranges, and blacks are bird-pollinated. One especially photographic species was the sunrise colored catspaw, a smaller version of the taller kangaroo paws.

Maybe not as showy as the above but significant botanically are *Kingia* (grasstrees) and *Calectasia* (tinsel flower) because their classification is still in question. Some botanists classify them into an Australian endemic order Dasyopogonales, with only one family Dasyopogonaceae.

Emu bush, *Eremophila*, Myoporaceae, another Australian endemic, has flowers similar to the Scrophulariaceae. Bitter quandong, *Santalum*, is a small tree in the same family, Santalaceae, as our little *Commandra* here in Oregon. The legume family, Fabaceae, is Australia's largest angiosperm family, with *Acacia* as the most common genus. *Gastrolobium* includes prickly poison and others poisonous to introduced livestock. The extracted poison, named 1080, is used in control invasive mammals.

Why does a landscape with little topographic relief and old, highly weathered soils have so many species?

In Oregon we think of disturbances such as floods (Missoula), mountain building (Cascades), volcanoes (Mazama), and glaciation, all occurring within the last 20 million years, as shaping our landscape, building up soil fertility, and influencing speciation events. In contrast, Australia is a very old land mass, stretching back 250 million years, where such disturbances have not been a key part of history and the soil is relatively infertile. The emerging explanation of evolution, ecology, and biodiversity in Australia has been called the old, climatically buffered, infertile landscape (OCBIL) theory to contrast with the young, often disturbed, fertile landscapes (YODFEL) of the Northern Hemisphere (Hopper, 2009).

What gave rise to all the species diversity we see today in the SWAFR? Paleogeographic processes (island formation, scarp uplifting) are probably part of the explanation. Arthropod pollinator preference, which needs further study, may be another important factor.

Another question has to do with the high rates of species turnover across the landscape. Traveling through the landscape, we noticed even 1 km, 0.62 mile, could make a difference in species composition. Why turnover is so high is still being determined. According to Hopper and Gioia (2004), no simple explanation is likely to be found:

References:

- Clarke, I. and H. Lee (2006) *Name that Flower. Identification of Flowering Plants*. Melbourne University Press. 299p.
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- WA Wildflower Events: <http://www.wildflowerswa.com/en/Wildflower+Events/default.htm>



Darwinia, *mountain bells*, *Stirling Range*.

"Much more experimental demographic and ecophysiological research is needed to advance understanding of how species-rich communities of SWAFR flora are assembled and ecologically maintained."

So, if you visit the southwestern corner of WA, you not only get to enjoy the wonderful and sometimes weird flora of the SWAFR, you can also ponder on the unresolved mysteries surrounding what evolutionary forces produced such an incredibly diverse flora and what ecological factors are at work maintaining it today.

Gail Baker is an assistant professor of biology at Lane Community College in Eugene. She and Clayton Gautier are members of the Emerald Chapter.

Thanks to: Lane Community College Faculty Professional Development Committee for sabbatical leave for G. Baker, everyone mentioned in this essay, the Sheahan family and many others who made this a plant ecologist dream trip.



WANTED Plant of the Year

Here is a big opportunity: you can submit an essay on a favorite native plant to be the next Plant of the Year in Oregon. It's a big honor, and if your photo is good enough, it could land on the cover of *Kalmiopsis* (its not *Rolling Stone*, but Rhoda Love tells us that the public library in The Dalles displays its copy of *Kalmiopsis* in a glass case!). Refer to recent issues of *Kalmiopsis* for length and content of the articles (Dangly Fen Sedge, Green-flowered Wild Ginger, Oregon Grape, California Buckeye, Basin Wildrye), and write to kalmiopsis@npsoregon.org with your ideas. With the variety of wonderful native species in this state, you've got to have a favorite or two. Don't be stingy; share them with us!

—Cindy Roché, *Kalmiopsis* Editor.

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Review of *Urbanizing Flora* occasional paper

by Aaron Liston, Oregon State University Herbarium

Christy, J.A., A. Kimpo, V. Marttala, P.K. Gaddis, N.L. Christy. 2009. *Urbanizing Flora of Portland, Oregon, 1806-2008. Occasional Paper 3 of the Native Plant Society of Oregon*. 319 pp. ISSN 1523-8520. [softcover]. US \$15. Ordering information: www.npsoregon.org/publications.html

Don't judge this book by its title. The word "urbanizing" is not a common one, and even if it is familiar to you, reading about the decline of native plants and their replacement by those adapted to an urban environment may not strike you as an enjoyable read. Perhaps more attractive is the prospect of learning about the past 200 years of botanical activity in the Portland area, and that is the subject of the first 60 pages of this book. Topics include a chronology of botanical exploration in the region, biographies of the principal plant collectors, and the historic and modern vegetation and habitats of Portland-Vancouver region. The text is well-illustrated with historical photographs of the city environs and the botanists who collected here. This section concludes with a thorough analysis of the factors contributing to the historical and ongoing changes in Portland's flora, and it provides an excellent perspective on the dynamic interplay between native and exotic plants in an urban environment.

Several well-known plant collectors played important roles in the botanical history of the region, but the star of this story is Martin Gorman (1853-1926). Gorman's profession was accounting, while his passion was botany. He was also a founding member of the Oregon Alpine Club and Mazamas, and curator of the Forestry Building from 1906-1926. Built for the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition, the Forestry Building was a "hub of botanical activity" during Gorman's tenure. Gorman collected about 200 plant specimens from the Portland area, and most important, he wrote several articles on the region's flora, culminating in his List of Plants in the Vicinity of

Portland, Oregon published in 1916 and 1917. Tragically, the botanical journal *Muhlenbergia* ceased publication before the complete manuscript was published, and the issue containing the last installment (over 200 species) was never distributed! One of the most significant contributions of Christy et al. is the first publication of Gorman's complete species list and notes (transcribed from the only known original, housed in the University of Oregon's Knight Library). Gorman's information is conveyed in tabular format, together with other historical and current information. This "catalog" fills 186 pages and encompasses 1,553 native and naturalized plants known within the same region that Gorman defined: a 15-mile radius from downtown Portland. One column of the table combines Gorman's text in bold with other historical records (gathered from herbarium specimens and other publications). A second column summarizes the "current condition" of each plant including whether it is native or exotic, rare or common, its period of introduction, modern records, and miscellaneous comments. Much fascinating information is contained in this table, and it is an extremely valuable resource for anybody interested in the plants,

and changing flora, of Portland and the Pacific Northwest.

An extensive bibliography and six appendices complete the text. These include a gazetteer, additional excerpts from Gorman's papers containing many observations of historical interest, and lists of 580 rare native plants, 312 rare exotic plants and 279 ballast plants (it was a popular pastime among Portland area botanists to collect the plants that grew from the soil used by ships for weight, transported around the globe, and dumped on the banks of the Columbia River in Portland).

The five authors are to be congratulated for producing a valuable addition to our understanding of the interactions of plants and people in the Pacific Northwest. They expertly combine historical scholarship with a comprehensive presentation of the current Portland flora. The floristic treatment is based on the authors' own botanizing, extensive data from herbarium records compiled by the Oregon Flora Project, and several other sources. The book is an important reference for Oregon and Washington botanists, and establishes a well-documented baseline for future studies of the region's flora.

Aaron Liston can be reached at alistona@science.oregonstate.edu.

Plant Sales

Note: The Cheahmill, Mid-Columbia, and Umpqua chapters are also holding plant sales in April and May. See the NPSO Calendar for details.

April 10, Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm

Green Gardening Fair and Native Plant Sale, Beaverton

Learn about composting, attracting wildlife to your garden, gardening with natives, pesticide-free gardening, pollinators, water conservation, and pruning techniques through workshops and information booths. Make a compost bin or take a walk in the new Native Plant Garden. More than 100 species of native plants. Free bag of potting soil with every \$35 purchase. Tualatin Hills

Nature Park Interpretive Center, 15655 S.W. Millikan Way, Beaverton. Sponsored by Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation. Information: 503-629-6350, www.thprd.org.

April 17-18, 10 am to 3 pm, Portland

Hardy Plant Society Spring Plant Sale & Garden Festival will be held at the Expo Center, Hall C, in Portland. This season there will be 79 specialty nurseries and wholesalers, 25 garden artists, community organizations, book sales, six tables of botanical samples, and garden experts. Free admission. Information: 503-224-5718, www.hardyplant-society.org.

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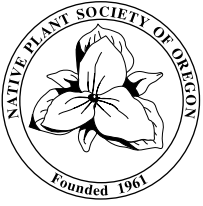
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Fans of the Oregon Flora Project will have an excellent opportunity this spring to demonstrate their support with a generous contribution to our fundraising campaign. Money contributed during this effort will be applied exclusively toward a staff position for a senior taxonomist. Many people have waited for the efforts of the OFP to be focused upon writing the new Flora of Oregon. With the recent releases of significant Project facets and the approaching completion of the synonymized Checklist, the Flora Project has positioned itself to effectively and efficiently produce the new Flora under the guidance of a full-time taxonomist. Now is the time to support the OFP, knowing that your contribution will have a direct impact on the timely completion of the Flora of Oregon. Please give generously when your appeal letter arrives!

Contributions can be made payable to: Agricultural Research Foundation (include "OFP-4482" on the memo line) and mailed directly to the foundation at: Agricultural Research Foundation, Oregon State University, 100 Strand Ag Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331-2219.