



Bulletin

of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

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NOVEMBER 2012

John O. Sawyer — Kin to the Earth

by Michael E. Kauffmann

This article was originally posted on the author's website. For information on conifers of the Klamath Mountains, visit www.conifer-country.com or meet the author in person at the Siskiyou chapter Holiday Potluck on December 13.

Dancing with raindrops from car to porch on any number of oft-spectacular Humboldt Bay days, I was hungry for a lunch date. As I shook my hands dry the push of a bell initiated the shuffle of feet, a crack of the door—and soon after—a long, sincere chuckle. The opening door revealed a smile to go with the laughter. It was the same way every time, and I always loved it. John's spirit was contagious

and he always brightened my day.

Once inside we would sit in the living room and chat, catching up with Jane, discussing a recent issue of *Backpacker Magazine*, or the latest developments in the world of conifers—eventually make our way to the car for lunch at the Sushi Spot in downtown Arcata. Just as the restaurant was pre-determined so was our order. Edamame, Klamath Rolls, and a pot

of tea would stimulate several hours of conversations swirling with conifers, flowering plants, places, sustainability, and biodiversity across the Klamath Mountains. As we talked we delved into Klamath facts, theories, and hypotheses all the while reminiscing about wilderness trips across the range. For Sawyer, trans-Klamath adventures had been occurring for a long time. He knew and loved the landscape.

John joined the faculty at Humboldt State University in 1966, where he became Professor of Botany and soon a nationally recognized authority on plant ecology, conifers, and the vegetation and flora of California,

continued on page 6

It's Renewal Time!

The NPSO membership year is January to December. Now is the time for members to renew for 2013. To find out whether you need to renew, please look at your address label on this issue of the *Bulletin*. If 2012 appears along the top edge of the label, you need to renew before February 15, 2013 to ensure that you do not miss out on any of the *Bulletins* or on the 2013 issue of *Kalmiopsis*. If the year is absent (i.e. top of label is blank) or if you see 2013, 2014, or a later year, ignore this notice - you do NOT need to renew at this time.

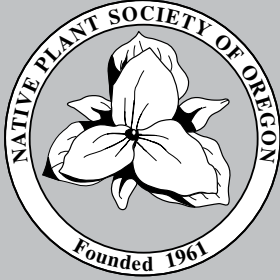
Please use the remittance envelope in this issue of the *Bulletin* to send in your dues, or use the membership form on the inside back page if the envelope is missing.

It's also a great time to consider a tax-deductible contribution to our special funds. The Leighton Ho Memorial Award is used for research projects in western Oregon. The Rare and Endangered Plant Fund supports work with our most threatened plants. The Augusta Rockefeller and Jean Davis Memorial Scholarships are awarded annually to a botany student at an Oregon college or university. You can also include a contribution to the Oregon Flora Project along with your dues.

Earth Share Contributors: ignore this notice unless you wish to become a regular member of NPSO. You will continue to receive the *Bulletin* for one year from the time of your contribution.

In This Issue

Grant Proposals Requested..	2
Membership Directory to be Published	2
NPSO Calendar	3
Other Events	5
2013 Photo Contest - Native Plant Appreciation Week	5
NPSO Contacts	7
Friends of OFF	8



Native Plant Society of Oregon

World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

E-mail Discussion List

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

General Business Address

P.O. Box 902
Eugene, OR 97440
or correspond directly with Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside of the back page.

Membership Inquiries Only

Matt Morales
P.O. Box 80714
Portland, OR 97280

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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 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.

Grant Proposals Requested

NPSO will continue to sponsor small field research grants. The objectives of the program are:

1. To stimulate basic field research into the biology and distribution of Oregon's native and naturalized flora and vegetation, particularly in the more remote areas of the state.
2. To promote native plant conservation through better understanding of Oregon's flora and vegetation and the factors affecting their survival.

Research proposals are due annually by March 1. The guidelines are available online at: www.npsoregon.org/grants.html. For a paper copy of the program policy and guidelines, contact:

Dan Luoma, Field Research Grants Committee Chair
5 NW Edgewood Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330
541-752-8860

Membership Directory to be Published

The 2013 edition of the NPSO Membership Directory will be published in April. An insert has been placed inside the renewal envelope included in this issue with instructions on how to preorder either a hard copy or an electronic copy of the Directory. Because of increased printing costs, we must now charge \$5 for the hard copy. The electronic copy is free.

If you wish to have your address or telephone number or both withheld from publication in the Directory, please make a prominent note on your renewal form.



DON JACOBSON

Calvatia sculpta (the sculpted puffball) can reach 14 cm in height and is reputed to be one of the best edible puffballs; however, *C. sculpta* does bear a superficial resemblance to *Amanita magniverrucata*, a possibly toxic, white *Amanita*, so be sure in your identification! The sculpted puffball is found alone or in small groups in conifer woods at higher elevations of western U.S. mountains; fruiting from late spring to early summer.

NPSO CALENDAR

State Notes

July 26 - 28, 2013

2013 NPSO Annual Meeting. The 2013 Annual Meeting will be in Baker City, OR, hosted by the William Cusick Chapter. Stay tuned for more information!

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. To be added to the e-mail list for upcoming programs and events, please contact cheahmillchapternpsocomcast.net.

November 24, Saturday, 10 - noon Work Party #156: Native Plant Garden, McMinnville Library. It's fall and we've switched over to weekend work parties. Volunteers will focus on weeding and the ongoing maintenance of garden specimens. Newcomers are welcome! Please dress for the weather and bring your own gloves and garden tools. Contact: Susan Williams, 503-538-1865 or helgesusan@comcast.net.

November 29, Thursday, 7 - 8:45 pm Meeting: Beach grass invasions and their influence on dune ecosystem functions and services. Dr. Sally Hacker, professor of ecology at Oregon State University, will explore how beach grass invasions have changed the dynamics of dune ecosystems and the protective services they provide. As a community ecologist interested in natural and managed coastal, dune, and estuarine communities, Dr. Hacker's research explores the structure, functions, and services of communities experiencing major plant invasions. Location: Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 NW Adams St. (corner of HWY 99W and SW 2nd St). Parking lot entrances on Adams and Second streets. Information: Bonnie Laux, 503-925-4960 or bon-laux@gmail.com.

Corvallis

For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis chapter e-mail list, contact Alexis Brickner and Kevin Weitemier at co_president@NPSOregon.org or 208-921-0827.

November 3, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: Mushroom Hike. Dan Luoma will lead mushroom hunters on a hike -- itinerary to be determined by the weather and fungus availability -- to identify and gather the succulent fungi. This will be an all-day outing, so please bring rain gear, stout boots,

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. You must pre-register for all events. 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.

a basket, waxed paper or bags, and lunch, water, etc. New meeting location: Bi-Mart parking lot, corner of 53rd and Highway 20/34 a bit before 8 am. For more information, call Dan at 541-752-8860.

November 11, Sunday, 1 - 4 pm

Potting Party: Avery House. Come help us prepare cuttings and divisions of native plants to be ready for the Spring Garden Sale. You may go home with a new cutting to keep! Please bring gloves, a trowel, rain gear, and any native cuttings or divisions you may have to pot up. Location: Avery Park Lion's shelter (near the Avery House). RSVP to Esther McEvoy, 541-754-0893 or esther@peak.org, so we can gauge needed supplies.

November 12, Monday, 7:30 pm

Talk: Tips and Tricks from the Oregon Flora Project Website. Linda Hardison, Oregon Flora Project (OFP) Director, will present the current activities of the OFP and demonstrate how its web tools and resources can inform your plant data needs. Also, get a sneak peek at the significant updates coming to the website next year! Location: Avery House in Avery Park, Corvallis. Park to the south of the Avery House in the park's parking lot. For more information contact Kevin at 208-921-0827 or Alexis at 860-878-2049.

December 10, Monday, 7 pm

Meeting: Corvallis Annual Winter Party. Join us at the house of Loren and Flo, 3420 SW Willamette Avenue, Corvallis. Please bring slides or digital images of your botanical adventures to show and a dessert to share with the group. Contact Loren at loren.russell@comcast.net.

Emerald

Visit the Emerald Chapter Web site at <http://emerald.npsoregon.org> to learn more about the latest chapter events, plant lists and botanical information about Lane County plants and the people who love them.

November 19, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Little Shops of Horror: Carnivorous Plants of Oregon. Charlene Simpson presents a slide show that features the lures and traps of flesh-eating plants. Starring: the Cobra Lily and featuring sundews, bladderworts and butterworts in Oregon's bogs and fens. Location: EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Avenue, Eugene. Information: 541-349-9999.

December 17, Monday, 7:30 pm

Event: Holiday Social and Slide Show. Bring 10 to 12 slides (traditional or digital) and a snack to share if you wish. Location: EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Avenue, Eugene. For more information call 541-349-9999.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia

For information on the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Sara Wu at wusara96@yahoo.com.

November 15, Thursday, 7 p.m.

Meeting: Need Plant data? -- The Oregon Flora Project Provides! The Oregon Flora Project (OFP) is a dynamic program providing information about the vascular plants of Oregon. Customized maps, images, nomenclature, fact sheets, and plant descriptions are some of the many resources made available through the OFP website. Director Linda Hardison, Dept of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University, will describe how these tools were developed, demonstrate ways the data apply to real-life questions, and share plans for a new and improved OFP website. Location: Boardroom, Building 1, Columbia Gorge Community College, The Dalles.

Portland

*If you would like to receive the chapter's semi-official e-mail newsletter, The Calochortus, e-mail Don Jacobson at [*photo@gmail.com.*](mailto:donj-</i></p></div><div data-bbox=)*

Facebook: Take a look at our Facebook page. Native Plant Society of Oregon-Portland-Chapter. It will have the most up-to-date information on hike and other events as well as great plant pictures.

November 8, Thursday, 7 pm

Program meeting: "Lichens as an indicator of climate change." Linda Geiss of the US Forest Service will show pictures of lichens in their natural settings and will present data from twenty years of observing lichens at high altitudes or Oregon and Washington, linking it to climate change, and the use of fossil fuels in our daily lives. Location: Metro building at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland. Enter at the south end of the upper plaza on Irving St, (not the door on Grand Ave). An attendant will let you in and direct you to the meeting room upstairs. Informal meeting at 7 pm. Formal meeting begins sharply at 7:15 p.m. Contact: Roger Brewer at rogerbrewer@comcast.net or 503-789-5027.

December 13, Thursday, 7 pm

Member's party: Slide Sharing. Bring your electronic slides of native flora from Oregon and beyond for our annual year end celebration of the wildflower season. Bring goodies to share. Location: Metro building at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland. Enter the building at the south end of the upper plaza on Irving St, (not the door on Grand Ave). An attendant will let you in and direct you to the meeting room upstairs. Informal meeting at 7 pm. Brief formal meeting followed by slide sharing starts at 7:15 pm. Contact: Roger Brewer at rogerbrewer@comcast.net or 503-789-5027.

Siskiyou

To join the Siskiyou Chapter email list: Send an email, from the address at which you want to receive announcements, to announce-join@siskiyou.npsoregon.org. No subject or message is required. You will get a confirmation email. If you would like to volunteer to lead a hike in 2012, make a suggestion, or provide feedback regarding

the field trip program please contact Sasha Joachims at: sasharain71@gmail.com.

November 15, Thursday, 7pm

Meeting: RNAs & ACECs. Bureau of Land Management botanist Mark Mousseaux will describe a few of the special places in Southwest Oregon – Resource Natural Areas (RNA) and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) – and some of the special plants that grow there. Location: Southern Oregon University, Science Bldg., RM 171. Meeting time change: Refreshments at 6:45 pm, meeting and program at 7:00 pm. Contact Kristi: 541.941.3744.

December 13, Thursday, 6:30 - 9:30pm

Holiday Potluck Program: Past, Present, and Future: Climate Change and the High Elevation Conifers of the Klamath Mountain Region.

Join teacher, researcher, and explorer Michael Kauffmann on an arm-chair journey through time and the Klamath Mountains, focusing on our regional high elevation conifers. These mega-flora of the Klamath Mountain tops have survived shifting climatic conditions through recent geologic ages, but will they survive the next shift? Michael's first-hand observations and others' studies from across the West suggest the answer. Location: Talent Community Center, Talent. Contact Kristi: 541.941.3744.

Umpqua Valley

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

Willamette Valley

For program information, contact John Savage at 503-399-8615 or Alexandra Ninneman at 503-391-4145.

William Cusick

Visit our Web site at <http://williamcusick.npsoregon.org> or contact Laurie Allen at 541-805-0499 for updates and general information.

OTHER EVENTS

Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group

November 13, Tuesday, 7 pm

Presentation: Rhododendron Diversity. Harold Greer, of Greer Gardens and author of *Greer's Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons*, will give us insight into this extremely diverse genus. Doors open at 6:30 pm for book sales and viewing botanical samples. Admission is \$5 for non-members and free for members. Location: Campbell Community Center, 155 High St., Eugene. Park in the lot at the corner of 2nd Ave. and High St. For more information, contact: Pam Perryman, 541-344-0896

North American Butterfly Association

December 10, Monday, 7 pm

Presentation: "Bringing Back the Pollinators: What we can all do to protect these essential creatures." Scott Hoffman Black will discuss the importance of insect pollinators, the groups of insects that provide pollination services in North America, and actions we can take to protect and provide habitat for pollinators. Scott is Executive Director of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation and Chair of the International Union for Conservation of

Nature (IUCN) Butterfly Specialist. Location: EWEB Training Center at 500 4th Ave., Eugene. Refreshments at 7 pm, presentation at 7:30. Admission is FREE, all are welcome;

Ashland Parks & Recreation, North Mountain Park Nature Center

November 6, 13, and 20, 7 - 9 pm

Course: Climate Change & the Rogue Valley. This three-session course will explore the scientific basis for climate change and the physical and biological consequences, then focus on what is likely to happen in the Pacific Northwest. Instructor Alan Journet recently retired after teaching biology at Southeast Missouri State University for thirty years. Register online at www.ashland.or.us/register or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606. \$6/session; \$15/series of 3. Location: North Mountain Park Nature Center, 620 N Mountain Ave., Ashland.

East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (EMSWCD)

November 4 - December 5, Wednes-

days, Saturdays, and Sundays

Workshops: Dig into Fall Gardening. Free Naturescaping & Rain Garden Workshops in Portland: Rain Gardens 101, Naturescaping Basics, and Site Planning 1. Pre-registration required. View the full schedule, start times, location details and register online at www.emswcd.org/workshops-events/register-for-a-workshop. Information: 503-222-7645.

Siskiyou Field Institute

November 14th - 16th, Wednesday - Friday

Survey and Manage: Fungi. Survey and Manage protocols include searches for listed fungi on federally managed lands, as mandated under the Northwest Forest Plan. This intermediate/advanced level course addresses those target fungal species. Course time will include lectures and lab time to examine specimens. A field component will address locating these generally subterranean species. Instructor: Scot Loring. Location: Deer Creek Center, Selma, OR. Tuition: \$225. Advance registration required. Contact: (541) 597-8530, www.thesfi.org

2013 Photo Contest - Native Plant Appreciation Week

This year NPSO will again host a photo contest to select images for the 2013 Oregon Native Plant Appreciation Week poster. Native Plant Appreciation Week is co-sponsored by NPSO and the Bureau of Land Management. The contest is open to everyone. Photos should showcase an Oregon plant community or a portrait of an Oregon native plant. Photos may have been taken at any time but must have been taken in Oregon.

Entries must be submitted online on the NPSO Photo Gallery (www.npsoregon.org/photos/v/2013npaw/), in the album titled "2013 NPAW Photo Contest." Two entries maximum per person. **Entry deadline is December 15, 2012.**

Photos will be rated and selected by the poster committee based on subject matter, composition, and technical excellence.

When submitting images to the gallery, please fill in the Caption field with as much information as you can provide about the photo; photographer name, species or other description, and location are all required. The sample image in the album shows what is wanted. Please give each photo a descriptive name (such as `dodecatheon_pulchellum`) before uploading. For each photo submitted, send an email to Judi Sanders, judi.sanders@gmail.com, giving the information in the Caption field, as well as the name of the photo as it is listed in the album. Also include your email address, home address, and phone number. Complete details can be found at: www.npsoregon.org/photocontest.html. Questions can be emailed to Judi Sanders, For any problem submitting photos, contact the webmaster, webmaster@npsoregon.org

John O. Sawyer, cont. from page 1

especially of the Klamath Region. He was particularly proud of his cadre of graduate students (over 50 of them!) many of whom now occupy professorships, and responsible positions in state and federal agencies and the conservation movement around the country. John's friendship and rigorous, theory-driven exploration of ecological ideas with his students and colleagues created personal and professional bonds that will last beyond a lifetime.

Sawyer never shied away from taking students into the field for hands-on experiences. He insisted everyone needed such adventures to learn about the natural world in a proper way. His class field trips included thousand mile bus rides to the Mojave Desert or shorter jaunts to trek students across, over, and around the ridges, canyons and mountain tops of the Klamath. All the while searching for plant species and piecing together patterns in the vegetation.

At the end of an era for pioneers,



MICHAEL E. KAUFFMANN

John and an impressive sugar pine (*Pinus lambertiana*) along Sugar Creek.

Sawyer and his colleagues were pioneering the understanding of large-scale landscape vegetation patterns. While he saw and loved the Western landscape broadly, he especially loved the Klamath Mountains and helped to define its flora. His countless hours of field research, extending well beyond his formal retirement, resulted in over



MICHAEL E. KAUFFMANN

Hiking on Limestone Ridge in the Trinity Alps Wilderness.

forty scientific publications and three books – *Trees and Shrubs of California*, *Northwest California: A Natural History*, and *A Manual of California Vegetation*, which was adopted as the state standard for vegetation classification. This love of native plants led to him being active in the Save the Redwoods League and the Ecological Society of America. John was President of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), and a founding member and first President of the North Coast Chapter of CNPS.

I think what most excited me about John was his love of wild places. When he spoke of ideal wilderness he did so with a twinkle in his eye and a giddy-up in his voice. Over the years I knew him he revealed many of the favorite places he adventured in search of plants and patterns—but the one that came up most often was the Russian Wilderness.

G. Ledyard Stebbins first made him aware of the rare conifers around Russian Peak and asked John to journey there to help establish a better understanding of the area for the Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California organized by CNPS. In the late 60's and early 70's he, along with numerous colleagues and students, trekked through this country to inventory the plants. In Sugar Creek Canyon they found 400 species of vascular plants and in one roughly drawn square mile around Little Duck Lake he and

Dale Thornburg discovered 17 species of conifers. They affectionately called this The Miracle Mile to celebrate the amazing diversity here. This work and the new understandings his research established ultimately led to the area's preservation as the Russian Wilderness in 1984. Something he was undeniably proud of.

John was one of the strongest people I know. He was indefatigable in the face of his long term illness. No matter how sapped of energy through years of treatments, he never stopped laughing, learning, and sharing. Recently, his doctors told him that his options were exhausted and that his life could be prolonged somewhat, but the quality of it (most expressly his ability to walk and get around on his own) could not. He declined quickly in the summer of 2012 and died comfortably, at home with the people he loved nearby—under a canopy of redwoods.

John influenced many of us as botanists, ecologists, biogeographers, and lovers of nature. But most importantly he was a model for the strength of the human spirit and the unalterable enjoyment of life through its ups and downs. His spirit and essence will always live on in our hearts and minds as well as in the wild places he so dearly loved.

I thank Jane Cole, Jim Smith, Todd Keeler-Wolf, Michael Mesler and Allison Poklemba for their contributions to this story.

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____
 Chapter (if known) _____

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

Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

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

Send completed form and full remittance to:
 Native Plant Society of Oregon
 P.O. Box 80714
 Portland, OR 97280

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

- New Renewal
 Student – \$12 Regular – \$25 Family – \$35
 Sustaining – \$60 Patron – \$125 Life Membership – \$500
 Subscription Only (*Bulletin* and *Kalmiopsis*) – \$25 *Only for those who wish to subscribe, but do not want to have full membership status.*

CONTRIBUTIONS to NPSO are tax deductible.

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

Membership in the Native Plant Society of Oregon is open to all.

Membership applications, renewals and changes of address (include old address) should be sent to the Membership Chair. Changes of address may also be e-mailed to Membership@NPSOregon.org.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

STATE OFFICERS

DIRECTORS (to 6/2013)..... Linda Hardison, Frances Stilwell, Bruce WaughMary Beth Averill, Betty Bahn and Cecile Shohet (to 6/2014)
 PRESIDENT Judi Sanders president@NPSOregon.org; 541-738-6674
 IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT..... David Lebo past_president@NPSOregon.org; 503-622-2008
 VICE PRESIDENT..... Billy Don Robinson bdmeme@gmail.com; 503-515-1708
 SECRETARY..... Lisa Blackburn secretary@NPSOregon.org; 503-538-3976
 TREASURER..... Cyndi Dion 897 Hillview Dr., Ashland, OR 97520-3517; treasurer@NPSOregon.org; 541-482-8603

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

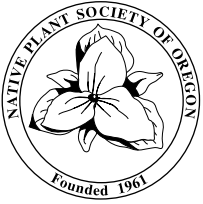
CHEAHMILL Lisa Blackburn ch_president@NPSOregon.org; 503-538-3976
 CORVALLIS..... Alexis Brickner & Kevin Weitemier co_president@NPSOregon.org; 208-921-0827
 EMERALD (Eugene)..... Brian Basor78703 Echo Hollow Ln., Cottage Grove, OR, 97424; em_president@NPSOregon.org; 541-335-1268
 MID-COLUMBIA Sara Wu 595 Hearthiside Lane, Goldendale, WA 98620; wusara96@yahoo.com; 509 773 7127
 PORTLAND..... Angie Moore po_president@NPSOregon.org; 503-292-2093
 Roger Brewer rogerbrewer@comcast.net; 503-789-5027
 SISKIYOU Marcia Wineteer si_president@NPSOregon.org; 541-897-0421
 UMPQUA VALLEY (Roseburg)..... Donna Rawson 4134 Goodrich Hwy, Oakland, OR 97462-9636; uv_president@NPSOregon.org; 541-459-2821
 WILLAMETTE VALLEY (Salem) John Savage 1645 Church St SE, Salem, OR 97302-2908; wv_president@NPSOregon.org; 503-399-8615
 WM CUSICK (La Grande)..... Susan Geer susanmgeer@gmail.com
 Dick Austin..... wc_president@npsoregon.org

STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

BUDGETS AND GRANTS Dan Luoma..... 5 NW Edgewood Dr., Corvallis, OR 97330; 541-752-8860
 CONSERVATION, EAST SIDE..... Vacant
 CONSERVATION, WEST SIDE..... David Lebo president@NPSOregon.org; 503-622-3191 ext. 639
 FRIENDS OF OR FLORA PROJECT Linda Hardison..... 2082 Cordley Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331-2902; hardisol@science.oregonstate.edu; 541-737-4338
 LEGISLATIVE Billy Don Robinson bdmeme@gmail.com; 503-515-1708
 MEMBERSHIP..... Matt Morales P.O. Box 80714, Portland, OR 97280; membership@NPSOregon.org
 NPSO FELLOWS..... Jan and Dave Dobak..... jddobak@pcez.com; 503-248-9242
 RARE & ENDANGERED PLANTS Erin Gray & Cecile Shohet ecgray830@gmail.com, cshohet@gmail.com

PUBLICATIONS

BULLETIN EDITOR..... Erika Wedenoja..... bulletin@NPSOregon.org
 BULLETIN PRODUCTION Jocelyn Duffy..... jocelynduffy@yahoo.com
 KALMIOPSIS EDITOR Cindy Roché..... P.O. Box 808, Talent, OR 97540; kalmiopsis@NPSOregon.org
 WEBMASTER Sunia Yang syang895@yahoo.com



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Native Plant Society of Oregon
Matt Morales, Membership Chair
P.O. Box 80714
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www.oregonflora.org

Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

Information we receive—Atlas observations, newly published names, herbarium specimen annotations, photos—passes through several quality assurance steps before we make it available on our website. We are improving these steps to shorten the time between the receipt of data and its public presentation. Issues that currently are or soon will be rapidly updated include: correction of Atlas dots with mapping coordinate errors, addition of new batches of images, and updates to identifications of images and specimens (e.g., annotations) when the new determination is a name in the current version of the Checklist. We will continue to publish new versions of the Checklist on a yearly or biannual basis, thus providing a clearly-defined reference to cite when documenting Oregon plant nomenclature.

Charitable donations are a critical part of the OFP budget. We hope you will give generously during our year-end fundraising campaign to help keep botanical information available for all!

Contributions can be made at any time by check (payable to Agricultural Research Foundation, with "OFP-4482" on the memo line) and sent to: Agricultural Research Foundation, 100 Strand Ag Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331-8521.