



# 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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## Super Early Look at Snowless Bristow Prairie

by Tanya Harvey, Emerald Chapter

This article is excerpted from the author's "Plants and Places" blog. The full article, posted online April 2, 2015, and other stories of botanizing in the western Cascades, are available at [westerncascades.com/blog](http://westerncascades.com/blog).

I'm usually happy to be parked in front of my computer most days in the winter, but with all the glorious weather during this winter-that-wasn't, it's been really tough not having time to go out. I've been working with the Oregon Flora Project on the upcoming *Flora of Oregon*. At last, I was able to take a day off.

On Sunday, March 29, fellow NPSO member Nancy Bray and I headed up to Bristow Prairie in southeastern Lane County, so I could see things for myself. This botanically rich area up on the Calapooya crest has a wide variety of habitats. I wanted to see how each adapted to the mild winter.

Also, as early as possible in the year (I never guessed it would be this early!), I wanted to check on the population of Siskiyou fritillary (*Fritillaria glauca*) that Sabine Dutoit spotted in the rocky bald on one of our trips last summer. We had no problem getting up to the main prairie. There was barely any snow visible except a little on some higher, north-facing slopes. It's really quite frightening to think about the consequences of having no snowpack in the Western Cascades. For now, it's rather exciting to be able to get up over 5000' in March. My botanizing companions and I have often speculated on what conditions trigger different species of plants to emerge and to bloom. Some may respond to daylight conditions at certain times of year; others seem to follow heat or rainfall. Oregon yampah (*Perideridia oregana*) seems to bloom when the ground starts

to dry out in early summer. So-called snow-melt species emerge as the snow is melting and don't occur (in the Cascades anyway) where there isn't reliable snow. When would they emerge if there wasn't any snow at all? How will plants react to months of above-normal temperatures? What happens when they bloom so early that they get covered with snow while in full bloom? There may be one small silver lining about the lack of snow in the mountains: it gives us a rare opportunity to see how different plants respond to the unusual conditions, and perhaps we can learn more about what makes them tick.

We started out with a quick look at Bristow Prairie itself. Very little was happening in the large open meadow or along the seepy roadbanks that are covered with interesting early annuals, just some leaves emerging, including great polemonium (*Polemonium*

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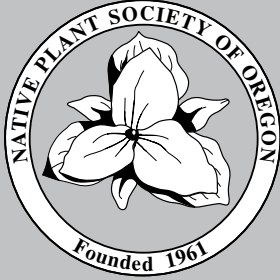


TANYA HARVEY

Looking north from Bristow Prairie, there is no snow in sight—very scary for late March! In the center of the photo is the imposing south face of "Mosaic Rock". Youngs Rock and Moon Point can also be seen, just to the left of the dark tree on the left.

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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](mailto:majordomo@tardigrade.net), with the following in the body of the message: `subscribe npsos`

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors of the articles. They do not represent the opinions of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, unless so stated.

## NPSO Annual Meeting 2015 Updates and Reminders

The 2015 Annual Meeting, sponsored by the Mid-Columbia Chapter May 29–31, rapidly approaches. The early arrival of spring will move some field trips to slightly higher elevations — happily, there are plenty of these, many accessible from our originally selected destinations. Some of you who tried to register for Friday and/or Sunday field trips, unfortunately experienced a consequence of our limited resources. That said, we've tried to generate as many additional field trip slots as we can, and we will be glad to provide suggestions for self-led field trips at the meeting.

Please note that both the meeting registration fee and room rates at the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn (BWHR Inn) go up on May 1. There will also be no refunds after May 1. The cut-off date for banquet registration is May 20. Students interested in travel funds (up to \$200) should request an application form from Nancy Barron, [nancymay@wildblue.net](mailto:nancymay@wildblue.net).

We provide suggestions for places to eat in Hood River on the resources page of the meeting website. Please be aware, however, that competition can run high during summer weekends in Hood River. For details, go to the meeting website: [npsoregon.org/2015mtg](http://npsoregon.org/2015mtg). Please monitor this website for updates to the venue, merchandise and resources pages. In particular, information about obtaining maps for the Hood River and Mt Adams Ranger Districts will appear on the resources page. We will post weather forecasts and any important last-minute information about the meeting at the beginning of the introduction page. Finally, if you would like to and can help at the meeting, please let us know via email, [annualmeeting@npsoregon.org](mailto:annualmeeting@npsoregon.org).

## Take Your Green Team to the Next Level

Do you work for an employer that has a Green Team or Sustainability Committee? Many workplaces have groups like these that aim to cut waste and shrink their carbon footprint.

But how does your organization move forward once employees learn to turn their monitors off and start composting in the kitchen? There's so much more that you can do.

EarthShare Oregon helps employers raise their sustainability standards year after year by connecting their employees with dozens of local member charities (including NPSO). These nonprofits can help your company's green team explore new sustainability avenues – from renewable energy at the office to bicycle commuting programs.

Contact Meghan Humphreys at 503-223-9015 or [meghan@earthshare-oregon.org](mailto:meghan@earthshare-oregon.org) and learn how you can help reinvigorate your Green Team.

## Milkweed and Monarch Data Needed

Western monarch butterflies, like those in the east, have shown significant population declines over the last two decades. As a part of a larger initiative to help monarchs, the western U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) regions have recently partnered with the Xerces Society to model habitat suitability for western monarch butterflies. This suitability model will be used to prioritize areas for habitat restoration and monitoring activities. The project is still in its early stages and we are currently working on acquiring as much relevant data as possible. This is where we could use the help of NPSO members. We are looking for past and current data on milkweed and monarch locations to help populate the model. If you have any relevant data or would like to learn more about how you can help, please contact Ashley Taylor at [Ashley.Taylor@xerces.org](mailto:Ashley.Taylor@xerces.org) or Madeline Steele at [Madeline\\_Steele@fws.gov](mailto:Madeline_Steele@fws.gov).

# NPSO CALENDAR

## State Notes

### NPSO Annual Meeting 2015

#### May 29-31, Friday-Sunday

The Mid-Columbia Chapter will host the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Native Plant Society of Oregon in Hood River. The state board meeting will be held on Sunday morning. For details, visit [npsoregon.org/2015mtg](http://npsoregon.org/2015mtg). Please monitor the website for updates.

## Blue Mountain

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

## Cheahmill

*For questions, or to be added to the Cheahmill Chapter's email list for reminders of upcoming programs and events, please contact the Cheahmill Chapter President at [ch\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:ch_president@NPSOregon.org).*

#### May 23, Saturday, 10 am-2 pm

**Event: Wildflower Show and Native Plant Sale.** View wildflower specimens, buy native plants, and tour the library's native plant garden. Location: Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 NW Adams St. (corner of Hwy 99W and SW 2nd St.). Parking lot entrances on Adams and 2nd Streets. For more information contact: Lisa Blackburn, 503-538-3976 or [blackburnlisag@gmail.com](mailto:blackburnlisag@gmail.com).

## Corvallis

*For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis chapter e-mail list, contact Jordan Brown at [co\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:co_president@NPSOregon.org) or 253-820-3934.*

#### May 2, Saturday, 10:30 am-Noon

**Field Trip: Oregon Coast Aquarium.** In honor of Native Plant Appreciation Week there will be a stroll of the Oregon Coast Aquarium grounds, led by former Aquarium groundskeeper and NPSO member Bruce Waugh

and current head groundskeeper Anita Albrecht. Location: meet at the front entrance to the Oregon Coast Aquarium, Newport. After the Aquarium tour any interested persons are invited to a tour of Bruce's garden in Otter Rock which includes over 100 natives. For more information contact Bruce Waugh at [brucewaugh@yahoo.com](mailto:brucewaugh@yahoo.com) or 541-264-8235.

### 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. A sample waiver form is available at [http://npsoregon.org/documents/NPSO\\_waiver.pdf](http://npsoregon.org/documents/NPSO_waiver.pdf). 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 trip leader checklist and sample waiver form are available at: <http://npsoregon.org/calendar.html>

#### May 11, Monday, 7:30 pm

**Presentation/Meeting: Algae of Oregon's Rocky Intertidal.** Allison Barner, PhD candidate in Integrative Biology at OSU, will talk about the often overlooked diversity of marine algae living along the Oregon coast. Allison will present an overview of the species that can be found in the intertidal zone (tide pools) accessible to anyone at low tide, and give some examples of what we're learning about their ecology from some of her dissertation research. Location: Avery House in Avery Park. For more information, contact Jordan Brown, [brownj@science.oregonstate.edu](mailto:brownj@science.oregonstate.edu) or 253-820-3934.

#### June 6, Saturday, 1-4 pm

**Tour: Three Gardens.** View the gardens of three NPSO members in Corvallis: Matt Blakeley-Smith, Loren Russell and Esther McEvoy. The gardens are all within a block of each other. Loren has a beautiful collection of plants from around the world, Matt specializes in carnivorous plants and Esther has a garden landscaped with native plants. Location: Please park on Willamette Ave. and start at Esther's Willamette Gardens nursery, two lots to the east of the house at 3290 SW Willamette Ave. The gate will be open by the lamp post and the shore pine. For more information call Esther 541-754-0893.

#### June 7, Sunday, 10 am-3 pm

**Field Trip: Marys Peak.** We will hike from the campground to the summit and back in a loop through the noble fir forest. Bring a lunch, raingear, and sturdy shoes. Hope to see many of the early spring flowers and check out the restoration at the summit in the rock garden area. Location: meet at the usual spot in the OSU parking lot SW of the Monroe St. Beanery. Contact Esther for more information and to RSVP in case there is a change in plans due to the weather: 541-754-0893.

## Emerald

*Visit the Emerald Chapter Web site at <http://emerald.npsoregon.org> to learn more*

*about the latest chapter events, plant lists & botanical information about Lane County plants & the people who love them.*

**Meeting Location:** Conference Room at Lane County Mental Health, 2411 Martin Luther King Blvd. Turn off MLK Blvd. onto Scout Access Rd. across from Autzen and take the first left into the parking lot. The meeting room is on the right side as you face the building.

### **May 2, Saturday, 10 am-1 pm**

#### **Field Trip: Wild Iris Ridge Park.**

Emily Steel of Eugene Parks and Open Space takes us to Wild Iris Ridge Park in the hills of southwest Eugene. We will walk 2 miles. Bring water and snacks. Location: At 10 am we will pool rides from the northeast corner of 11th Ave. and Bailey Hill Rd. Meet under the tall fir trees in front of Lowe's Store. For more information, call 541-345-5531.

### **May 3, Sunday, 8-10 am**

#### **Tour: Botany Art Themed Bike Ride.**

Gail Baker and Aryana Ferguson will lead you through downtown Eugene to discover botanical art murals, sculptures, ceramics and more. Bring your bike and helmet. Location: The ride will begin and end at the Morning Glory Café, 450 Willamette St., Eugene. For more information, contact Gail at bakerg@lanec.edu.

### **May 9, Saturday, 9 am-2 pm**

#### **Wildflower Tour: Bikes to Blooms.**

This bike-based wildflower tour will visit sites on the Row River Trail along scenic Dorena Lake. Regional plant experts will lead participants through natural areas with native prairie plants in bloom. Bring a bicycle, helmet, water, and lunch. All sites will be accessible by car, but cycling is encouraged. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Visit [coastfork.org](http://coastfork.org) for more information. Volunteers needed: Contact Pam Reber at 541-767-9717 or [coordinator@coastfork.org](mailto:coordinator@coastfork.org).

### **May 15-16, Friday-Saturday**

**Volunteer: Collect Plants and Set Up for Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Show.** We will spend Friday in the

field, collecting plants. Please contact Mary Beth Averill at [writeonmba@aol.com](mailto:writeonmba@aol.com) or Alex Doddington, [alexoddington@gmail.com](mailto:alexoddington@gmail.com), 541-968-8894, for information on how and where you can collect and for assistance in getting the required collection permits for federal, state, or city property. Saturday is a chance to work elbow to elbow with field botanists who can identify plants. Come for a couple of hours or all day from 9 am-3 pm. We need people to help place plants in vases, identify, and put plants out for display at the Arboretum. For information on Sunday's wildflower show, see the listing in the Wildflower Festival Calendar.

## **High Desert**

*For information, visit the High Desert Chapter website: [www.highdesertnpsoregon.org](http://www.highdesertnpsoregon.org) and Facebook page: Native Plant Society of Oregon: High Desert Chapter, or email [highdesertnps@gmail.com](mailto:highdesertnps@gmail.com).*

### **May 5, Tuesday, 6:30 pm**

#### **Program: Native Plant Landscaping.**

Sandy Conaway of Wintercreek Native Plant Nursery and Restoration will discuss landscaping with native plants. She is a local botany enthusiast, landscaper, and weed warrior. Location: Brooks Room, Bend Downtown Library, 601 NW Wall St.

### **June 20-21, Saturday-Sunday**

**Volunteer: Central Oregon Wildflower Show.** The High Desert Chapter is working on the Central Oregon Wildflower Show, to be held at the Sunriver Nature Center ([sunrivernaturecenter.org](http://sunrivernaturecenter.org)). Volunteers will be needed to "harvest" specimens, help ID and be on hand to answer questions during the two-day show. We are also looking for guest lecturers. Contact chapter vice president Susan Berger at [suzyfishn@gmail.com](mailto:suzyfishn@gmail.com) if you can volunteer. Additional information can be found on the chapter website.

## **Klamath Basin**

*For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, visit <http://klamathbasinnps.com> or contact the chapter president, Kim Eliott, [kb\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:kb_president@NPSOregon.org).*

### **May 7, Thursday, 6:30-7:30 pm**

#### **Meeting/Program: Ancient Volcanoes and Their Plants.**

Retired botanist Dr. Ron Larson and local lichenologist Steve Sheehy will talk about the geology of ancient volcanoes in the Klamath Basin and some of the relict plant communities that live here. Chapter meeting to follow. Location: Oregon Institute of Technology Campus, DOW Center for Health Professions Room 252.

### **May 9, Saturday, 10 am-3 pm**

#### **Event: 16th Annual International Migratory Bird Day.**

Come visit the Klamath Basin Chapter of the NPSO at this migratory bird celebration. The chapter will be featuring a variety of native plants for your garden. Plants will be free, but donations are appreciated. Location: Veteran's Park in downtown Klamath Falls.

### **May 16, Saturday, 9 am**

#### **Field Trip: Ancient Volcanoes and Their Plants.**

Dr. Ron Larson will lead a field trip to ancient volcanoes of the Klamath Basin to learn about the relict plant communities that live in these unique sites. Location: meet at the Home Depot parking lot at 9 am, we will arrange carpools and drive from there.

## **Mid-Columbia**

*For information on the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Sara Wu at [mc\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:mc_president@NPSOregon.org).*

### **May 21, Thursday, 5-9 pm**

#### **Meeting: Annual Meeting Preparations.**

We'll gather over a light supper to work on registration materials and other hand-outs, signage, schedules and duty charts for the Annual Meeting. Note the early start time — though you can arrive at any time. All chapter members are urged to attend. Watch your email for location specifics, RSVP information, and updates.

## **Portland**

*If you would like to receive the chapter's*

semi-official e-mail newsletter, The Calochortus, e-mail Don Jacobson at donj-photo@gmail.com.

**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.

**Meeting location:** The Portland Chapter meets the second Thursday of most months in the Metro Building at 600 NE Grand Ave., Portland. Enter from NE Irving St. on the north side of the building and walk across the upper plaza to the entrance (not the door on 600 NE Grand Ave.). An attendant will let you in and direct you to the meeting room upstairs. Meetings and programs begin at 7 pm.

**May 2 and 9, Saturdays, 9 am-4 pm**

**Field Class: Learn to Use a Botanical Key.** This two-day, highly interactive class at the Johnson Creek Watershed Council headquarters and at Camassia Nature Preserve, taught by Brent Miller, will teach you how to use a key to identify live or pressed plants. The first day will be with plants in a classroom, learning how to read a key and getting familiar with basic technical vocabulary. The second day you'll take your knowledge into the field, keying out plants in their native habitats. Fee of \$40 and book (Hitchcock & Cronquist) required. We will have a few copies of the book to loan. For more information or to sign up for the class, contact Nancy Chapman at chapmannj@comcast.net.

**May 3, Sunday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm**

**Field Trip: Four Sisters Near The Dalles.** We will hike the prairie hills on the east side of Sevenmile Hill. The property, owned by Columbia Land Trust, is home to several large vernal pools surrounded by hundreds of acres of balsamroot, milkweed, lupine, and much more. Easy 3 mile hike with 100 ft. elevation gain. If you would like to practice your keying skills bring your Hitchcock, Kozloff, or Gilkey keys. We will take some time to work through a few plants. Drive of 150 miles round

trip from Portland. Led by Mary Bushman. For more info or to sign up for the hike, contact Mary at 503-860-9689 or m.botanist@gmail.com.

**May 13, Wednesday, Noon**

**Field Trip: Urban Lunch Hour Walk, Tanner Springs Park.** The parks department has gathered native wildflowers you would have to travel far to see in their natural haunts. Water features make a pleasant retreat from the urban bustle. Led by Rick Shory, who has worked throughout the West as a Forest Service botanist. Location: meet at the SW corner of Tanner Springs Park, downtown Portland, NW Marshall & 11th Ave. If you are late we will be easy to spot as the entire park is just one city block. Sign up is not required, but will allow the leader to contact you if anything changes: rickshory@gmail.com or 503-253-8100.

**May 14, Thursday, 7 pm**

**Program: Oaks of the Columbia Gorge: Ecology, Diversity, and Thinning.** Get ready for the NPSO Annual Meeting in Hood River by joining Barbara Robinson for her presentation of the Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*). She focuses her research on the oak communities that grow east of the Cascades. Learn of the many ways in which oaks grow, adapt, and resprout under very diverse growing conditions, and how thinning threatens these oak communities. Meeting location: Metro Building, see above for details. Contact: Mary at alphiesmith@comcast.net or 503-288-4340.

**June 11, Thursday, 7 pm**

**Program: Oregon and the Wilderness Act at 50.** 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Bridget Callahan, wilderness campaign organizer for Oregon Wild, will discuss past victories and current campaigns to expand and protect wilderness areas in Oregon. She will highlight the Crater Lake Wilderness proposal and explore the botanical treasures of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. Meeting location: Metro Building, see above for details. Contact: Mary at alphiesmith@comcast.net or 503-288-4340.

## 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 2015, make a suggestion, or provide feedback regarding the field trip program, please contact Julie Spelletich at: jspelletich@gmail.com. Join us on Facebook at: facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon.*

**Thursday, May 21, 7 pm**

**Program: Historic Sterling Mine Ditch Trail and the New Jack-Ash Trail.** The Siskiyou Upland Trails Association (SUTA) is working to develop a non-motorized trail system linking the existing trails of Jacksonville to those in Ashland. SUTA Board President, Hope Robertson, will discuss the status of the Jack-Ash Trail and its connection with the historic Sterling Mine Ditch Trail. Native plants not only shape the proposed trail route but also will provide a major draw during wildflower season. Refreshments at 6:45 pm, meeting and program at 7:00 pm. Location: Southern Oregon University, Cascade Science Bldg. (the old Cascade Dorms), Room CSC 114 or Hawthorn Hall in Ashland. For a campus map, visit: sou.edu/map. For information contact Dave at davegarcia@charter.net.

## South Coast

*This is a newly formed chapter. For more information, contact the chapter president, Alexis Brickner, sc\_president@NPSOregon.org.*

## Umpqua Valley

*Visit umpquavalleynativeplants.com for more information on chapter activities or to be added to our email list. Check out our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO. Not online - call Donna Rawson 541-459-2821.*

**May 9, Saturday, 9 am-4 pm**

**Field Trip: Callahan Ridge.** Chris Rusch, retired botanist, will lead this trip to view a variety of "serpentine" endemic plant and fern species, including

Umpqua mariposa lily (*Calochortus umpquaensis*), Hall's violet (*Viola hallii*), Waldo rock cress (*Arabis aculeolata*), serpentine scorpionweed (*Phacelia corymbosa*), serpentine stonecrop (*Sedum radiatum* ssp. *ciliolum*), and Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus* ssp. *Kincaidii*). Callahan Ridge, with panoramic views of the Western Cascades and the Klamath Mountains, is 57 miles from Roseburg. Bring appropriate foot gear and clothing, lunch, water, camera/tripod, and *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest* by Mark Turner and Phyllis Gustafson. Location: departing Roseburg 9:30 sharp. Please call Larry Broeker, 541-680-3911, if you plan to come and let him know if you prefer to meet us at I-5 exit 103.

### May 30, Saturday, 9:30 am-5 pm

**Field Trip: Dog Creek Indian Cave, North Umpqua Watershed.** Larry Broeker, retired geologist, will lead us to this secluded site, characterized by cavernous outcroppings of hydrothermally altered volcanic tuff. *Kalmiopsis fragrans* hangs as long trailers and inside the cave are a variety of pictographs drawn by indigenous peoples. Hike 0.8 miles in length with a 460 foot descent to the cave. Bring appropriate foot gear and

clothing for weather, poison oak and ticks, lunch, water, and a camera/tripod. Location: meet at the parking lot behind Douglas County Library, Roseburg (west side of Fowler St. near Deer Creek) at 9 am, leaving 9:30 sharp. Alternate meeting place, I-5 exit 103 at the McDonald's parking lot at 10 am. Please call Larry, 541-680-3911, if you plan to come.

## Willamette Valley

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

### May 17, Sunday, 6:30 am-5 pm

**Field Trip: Dog Mountain.** John Savage of the Willamette Valley Chapter will lead an all-day hike to view wildflowers located in the Columbia Gorge on the Washington side. This is a difficult hike. Bring food and water. Free and open to the public. For more information and to register, please call 503-399-8615 after 7 pm.

### June 2, Tuesday, 9 am-1 pm

**Program: Restored Upland/Wetland Prairie and Oak Savanna Tour.** Lynda Boyer, restoration biologist and native seed manager for Heritage Seedlings, a

propagator of unusual trees and shrubs, will lead a tour of their farm just south of Salem. 200 acres of habitat restored to its former savanna glory, including a 40 acre former bent grass field seeded in fall 2014. Bring camera, field guide, binoculars and lunch (outhouses, drinking water, and fruit provided). Boyer will discuss successes and frustrations with restoring this endangered habitat. After the walk, enjoy the view under the shade of more than 400 oak trees from Steiwer Hill. Free and open to the public. For directions and to register, contact Boyer, boyer@heritageseedlings.com or 503-585-9835 x 103. More information about Heritage Seedlings restoration work is available at [heritageseedlings.com](http://heritageseedlings.com).

## William Cusick

Visit our Web site at <http://williamcusick.npsoregon.org> or contact Susan Geer at 541-963-0477 or Emelie Montgomery-Jones at 541-963-3339 for updates and general information. Chapter notices and communications are done primarily through a Google group. Members are reminded to contact Susan or Emelie if they want to be added to the Google group, or if they do not have internet access and want to be contacted by phone for events.

## OTHER EVENTS

### Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

#### May 12, Tuesday, 10 am-noon

**Field Trip: Wildflower Walk at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum.** Enjoy peak wildflower displays along the Arboretum trails on a walk led by Gail Baker, LCC professor emeritus. Camas and iris should be in full flower and we'll look for fringe cup, *Tellima grandiflora*, this year's poster flower for the upcoming Wildflower Festival. We'll see colorful developing fruits from the early season flowers, riverside habitats, rain or shine. Location: meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Cost \$5, members free. For more information visit: [mountpisgaharboretum.com/festivals-events](http://mountpisgaharboretum.com/festivals-events).

### Straub Environmental Center

#### May 12 and 14, Tuesday and Thursday, 7-8:30 pm

**Class: Adaptations of Native Plants.** Aislinn Adams and John Savage, Willamette Valley Chapter members, will discuss adaptability of native plants to various Oregon habitats. The details of a field trip for Saturday, May 16, will be announced in class. Location: Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A Street NE, next to Olinger Pool, near North Salem High. Open to the public; class is \$5 and field trip is \$10. Registration is required; please call 503-391-4145 or email [nichole@straubenvironmentalcenter.org](mailto:nichole@straubenvironmentalcenter.org).

### BLM/The Nature Conservancy

#### May 17, Sunday, 10 am

**Field Trip: Upper Table Rock – Powerful Pollinators.** Join Sarah Red-Laird, a.k.a. Bee Girl, who will explain why pollination is essential for our survival. Learn about the birds and the bees and their relationship with the wildflowers and tress that produce a rainbow of colors on the Table Rocks. Dress for the weather; bring drinking water (none is available) and snacks. No dogs or mountain bikes allowed. Free but reservations required and limited to 15 individuals. Call the Medford District BLM, 541-618-2200, by the Friday before the hike to reserve a space. For more information, visit [blm.gov/](http://blm.gov/)

or/resources/recreation/tablerock/index.php or nature.org/trhikes.

## Siskiyou Field Institute

For a complete list of botany classes, [thesfi.org/Page.asp?NavID=828](http://thesfi.org/Page.asp?NavID=828)

### June 24-26, Wednesday-Friday

**Class: Botanizing Poker Flat and Bolan Lake.** Explore the high Siskiyou while camping at Bolan Lake. Each day's foray will include hiking and becoming familiar with plants while enjoying the scenery and identifying species using The Jepson Manual keys. While everyone will participate in plant ID, instructor Linda Vorobik will adapt activities to suit individual participants' skill levels. Tuition: \$165. For more

information or to register, visit [thesfi.org](http://thesfi.org) or call 541-597-8530.

### June 28, Sunday

**Class: Serpentine of Smith River Canyon Geology and Ecology.** Our trip starts with a geologic overview presented at Deer Creek Center, followed by roadside lessons and observations of the Josephine ophiolite. Discover how plants have adapted to the nutrient-deficient and metal-laden soils derived from weathering of oceanic rocks. We will also visit serpentine sites, including fens, and discuss the endemic plant communities and other aspects of serpentine ecology. Instructors: Larry Broecker and Susan Harrison, PhD. Tuition: \$55. For more information or to register, visit [thesfi.org](http://thesfi.org) or call 541-597-8530.

## Carex Working Group

### June 24-25, Wednesday-Thursday

#### Workshop: Grass Identification.

Instructors Dr. Barbara Wilson, Dick Brainerd, and Nick Otting will emphasize grasses of central Oregon. The first day will be spent in the lab, with the second day in the field. We will use the most recent *Carex* Working Group key to PNW grasses. Cost: \$285. Location: Central Oregon Community College, Bend. For more information and registration, visit [carexworkinggroup.com](http://carexworkinggroup.com) and click on "Carex Working Group Workshops."

*Snowless Bristow Prairie, cont'd*

*carneum*) and coneflower (*Rudbeckia occidentalis*). Nothing coming up in the wet ditch below where later there will be bog orchids (*Platanthera* spp.) and the tiny least moonwort (*Botrychium simplex*). What we did find was a new plant for my list, western springbeauty (*Claytonia lanceolata*). They were scattered about the meadow. This is my favorite snow-melt species.

We headed back down the road to the north trailhead, passing blooming Sitka willow (*Salix sitchensis*), which we had also seen blooming down along the Middle Fork of the Willamette earlier in the day, several thousand feet lower. No snow in the north-facing woods at the beginning. We spotted a lone white-veined wintergreen (*Pyrola picta*)



TANYA HARVEY

*Viola sheltonii* is a very early bloomer recognized by its dissected leaves.

with a number of buds on it. This isn't even an early species; it normally blooms at this elevation in July. What caused it to develop buds so early? We saw plenty of snow queen (*Synthyris reniformis*) and some evergreen violet (*Viola sempervirens*) blooming on the forest floor. And on the way back, we saw a gorgeous stand of thirteen fairy slippers (*Calypto bulbosa*). All three of these species are still blooming at my house.

The rocky bald was my main destination. South-facing, rocky slopes usually bloom earlier than surrounding areas, so I fully expected to find some things flowering already. We were greeted by lots of bright yellow Shelton's violet (*Viola sheltonii*) and fully blooming pinemat manzanita (*Arctostaphylos nevadensis*). At the bottom of the smaller, more protected open slope just west of the main bald, there were a few more western spring beauties but none elsewhere. I imagine the snow (usually) builds up more there where the sun can't melt it away as quickly. There was a blooming white-flowered sweet pea (*Lathyrus nevadensis*?) and budding up larkspur (*Delphinium menziesii*). Some Sierra sanicle (*Sanicula graveolens*) was also starting. Lots of tiny seedlings held the promise of a good bloom of annuals—but when? Figuring out when things will bloom this year will be a real challenge! Butterflies knew that plants were



TANYA HARVEY

*A beautiful display of fairy slippers just below the large pillar rock near the north trailhead.* coming out. A Moss's elfin and an anise swallowtail flew about in the area, and we'd seen a painted lady along the road by the prairie.

As I headed up the slope, there were more larkspurs, some Hall's lomatium (*Lomatium hallii*), and quite a few spreading phlox (*Phlox diffusa*) in bloom. I managed to find a few small, glaucous leaves of *Fritillaria glauca* after quite a bit of searching and the help of my GPS, on which I had wisely placed a waypoint during last year's trip. The leaves seemed quite small and still mostly folded. My guess is that they have a long ways to wind through the rocks before emerging, so it takes some time. They are normally one of

*continued on page 8*

*Snowless Bristow Prairie, cont'd*

the earliest things to bloom but were beaten to the punch by these other flowers this year. After going to the top, I decided to come back down following the same swath where the frits seemed to flow down. This time, I counted more carefully and reached over 40 before becoming confused about which leaves I had already counted. I was very pleased to find one blooming-sized

plant with a single early bud. You've got to get out pretty darn early to see *Fritillaria glauca* not yet in bloom!

It's way too soon to come to any conclusions, but it will be quite interesting to see how the rest of the year plays out. Just since Sunday, the cooler weather and storms have dumped more snow above 5000' than there has been in quite some time. Perhaps it will slow down the flowering of many species.

We are probably weeks, maybe even a month ahead of "normal" at low elevations, but the mountains aren't far behind and may be as much as a couple of months ahead of time. What will that mean for the plants—and the animals? I'm planning to get up to Bristow Prairie a number of times this year to try to track the season, so hopefully some of my many questions will be answered.

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## 2015 Wildflower Festival Calendar for Oregon

by Gail Baker, Emerald Chapter

If your region of Oregon has a wildflower festival that is not listed, please send your festival information in the format seen in the calendar to Gail Baker: bakerg@lanec.edu.

Disclaimer/Caveat: All the information here was provided by individuals associated with the festivals or gleaned from internet sites. However, when planning your wildflower trips please double-check directly with the event contact to confirm dates and details.

**May 9-10, Saturday-Sunday, 10 am-4 pm**

**Shady Cove & Trail Wildflower Association Show.** Location: Shady Cove School multipurpose room, Cleveland St., Shady Cove, Jackson County.

Information: [www.shadycovewildflower-show.com](http://www.shadycovewildflower-show.com).

**May 9-10, Saturday-Sunday, 10 am-4 pm**

**Mother's Day Birding and Wildflower Festival.** NPSO members and park volunteers will lead wildflower walks and more. Location: Silver Falls State Park. Information: call 503-874-0201 or visit [oregonstateparks.org/park\\_211.php](http://oregonstateparks.org/park_211.php) and click on the Events link.

**May 17, Sunday, 10 am-5 pm**

**Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower and Music Festival.** Co-sponsored by the Emerald Chapter of NPSO. A plant sale and hundreds of native wildflowers will be on display. Location: Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, Eugene. Information: call 541-747-3817, or

visit [mountpisgaharboretum.com/festivals-events/wildflower-festival](http://mountpisgaharboretum.com/festivals-events/wildflower-festival).

**May 23, Saturday, 10 am-2 pm**  
**Cheahmill Chapter NPSO Wildflower Show and Native Plant Sale.**

For information, see the listing in the Cheahmill Chapter Calendar.

**June 20-21, Friday-Saturday**  
**Central Oregon Wildflower Show.**

Co-sponsored by the High Desert Chapter of NPSO. Location: Sunriver Nature Center. Information: [www.highdesertnpsoregon.org/central-oregon-wildflower-show.html](http://www.highdesertnpsoregon.org/central-oregon-wildflower-show.html).

**July 4, Saturday, 10 am-4 pm**

**Irene Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show.** Hosted by the Siskiyou Chapter of NPSO. Location: Ashland Community Center in Lithia Park.

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## April 2015 State Board Meeting Highlights

by Lisa Blackburn, NPSO Secretary

The Board voted to approve loaning the Emerald Chapter a maximum of \$2,000 for a down payment on the venue for the 2016 Annual Meeting, to be repaid through registrations. On-line payments for NPSO membership, renewals, and donations through PayPal will be implemented for one year and then evaluated. The Board voted to have the Treasurer establish a third bank account to receive online payments and pay PayPal fees.

Three NPSO Field Grants were approved for reimbursement of supplies, food and travel in Oregon. The awardees are Christa von Behrens for \$750, to be paid from the Leighton

Ho Fund; Madison Olson for \$750; and Christopher Adlam for \$720. The Board also voted to change the title of the NPSO Grazing Policy to "Public Lands Grazing Policy."

Reminders have been sent to Chapter Presidents about NPSO members whose memberships have lapsed. Chapters are asked to send letters to those lapsed members to renew their memberships. Ballots for the NPSO election are in the April *Bulletin*. One additional Director-at-large is still needed.

Posters for Native Plant Appreciation Week will be mailed to Chapter Presidents. Chapters should tell Judi

Sanders of any Native Plant Appreciation Week events they are hosting and submit those for online posting.

General liability insurance for the NPSO state entity has been purchased. Activities that are strictly chapter-oriented will not be covered. Annual meetings, state-wide NPSO sponsored workshops, and field trips that are open to all members should be covered. Thus, it behooves chapters to advertise all events that are open to all NPSO members in the *Bulletin* and on the NPSO state website.



# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Check to receive electronic *Bulletin*, sent by email in lieu of paper.

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 Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Augusta Rockafellar Memorial Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Rare and Endangered Plant Conservation 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](mailto:Membership@NPSOregon.org).**

## OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### STATE OFFICERS

DIRECTORS..... Michael Hartman, Dan Luoma, Kareen Sturgeon (to 6/2015); Linda Hardison, Laura Taylor, Kevin Weitmier (to 6/2016)  
PRESIDENT ..... Kelli Van Norman..... [president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:president@NPSOregon.org)  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT..... Judi Sanders..... [past\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:past_president@NPSOregon.org)  
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SECRETARY..... Lisa Blackburn ..... [secretary@NPSOregon.org](mailto:secretary@NPSOregon.org); 503-538-3976  
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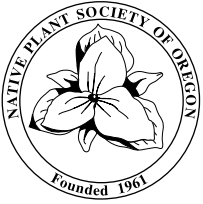
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## Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

*The Flora of Oregon Volume 1* is in press, and can be pre-ordered for delivery in early August! *Volume 1* presents treatments of the 1,054 taxa of ferns, gymnosperms, and monocots. Accompanying each description is a distribution dot map with ecoregions that host the taxon highlighted. There are pen and ink illustrations of 521 taxa, including 86 new works by artist John Myers. The “Ecology of Oregon” chapter describes the state’s 11 ecoregions and predominant habitats. A complementary chapter describes 50 sites—organized by ecoregion—to explore; these are accompanied by 73 beautiful color photographs. Additional chapters contain biographical sketches of notable Oregon botanists and the story of the Oregon Flora Project. The appendices emphasize plant taxa of interest to conservationists: rare and endangered species, endemics, taxa limited to a single ecoregion, and those not collected during the previous 50 years.

Pre-order your copy directly from the publisher to insure the quickest delivery and the highest portion of support directed to your Oregon Flora Project! The price is \$75.

Order online at from BRIT Press at <http://shop.brit.org/>.