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Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

May 2020

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Leucocrinum montanum, sand lily.

Photo by Cindy Roché.

We hope you enjoy the May eBulletin, starting with this poem by Jack Maze, inspired by Cindy Roché's photograph above.

sand lilies

flowers a symbol for these times -
faith, hope, love

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If you have any questions, please contact us at bulletin@npsoregon.org.

Eastern Oregon Scabland Flowers

If botanists had named this landscape feature instead of settlers in search of farmland or grazing for their livestock, scablands would bear the name rock gardens. Each year in May these shallow rocky sites east of the Cascade Mountains reach their peak glory with a diversity of wildflowers. Here is a sampling of what you would see in central Oregon in late April.



Grass widows (*Olsynium douglasii* var. *inflatum*) in the Iris family



Long-flowered bluebells (*Mertensia longiflora*) in the Borage family



Rock onion (*Allium macrum*) in the Amaryllis family



Yellow bells (*Fritillaria pudica*) in the Lily family



Daggerpod (*Phoenicaulis cheiranthoides*) in the Mustard family



Flagellate pussytoes (*Antennaria flagellaris*) and narrowleaf pussytoes (*Antennaria stenophylla*) in the Aster family



Sagebrush buttercup (*Ranunculus glaberrimus*) in the Buttercup family



Desert shooting star (*Dodecatheon conjugens*) in the Primrose family



Large fruit lomatium (*Lomatium macrocarpum*) and salt and pepper (*Lomatium gormanii*) in the Parsley family



Dwarf hesperochiron (*Hesperochiron pumilus*) in the Waterleaf family



Bighead clover (*Trifolium macrocephalum*) in the Legume family

- Cindy Roché

Book Review: Oregon Big Tree & Shrub Measurements



Oregon Big Tree & Shrub Measurements

Jerry Black. 2020. ISBN 978-0-578-59836-9. 208 pp. Self-published by the author; print on demand for \$45. Order by contacting Jerry Black (black eagle tree@yahoo.com).

If you have an interest in big trees, especially ones that are too big to wrap your arms around, this just might be the book for you. The book starts with a preface that provides the background of the author followed by several pages explaining how big trees are measured. The book focuses on National Champions (the largest in the US), although many of the trees and shrubs are (or were) Oregon State Champions. Numerous color photographs include almost all of the measured trees, supplemented by historical black and white images. Archival images include a 1947 picture of Oliver Matthews (1892-1979), who located seventeen Oregon Champion Trees, and a picture of Maynard Dawson (1924-2012), who published five books about Oregon's Champion Trees. The book, which measures 8.5 x 11 inches and is about a half-inch thick, is by far the best book produced on Oregon champion trees and shrubs.

Disclaimer: Jerry is a friend of mine as we share a passion for field work and documenting these massive giants. As Oregon's most prolific nominator of champion trees in Oregon, my photo is in the book too. The largest tree that I nominated in the book is the Coquille River Giant which was a stump when Eric Rutquist and I discovered it. The statistics for this Port Orford Cedar were DBH (diameter breast height) 21.4 ft., circumference 67 ft. 2 in., height 245 ft. (est. height of 285 ft. before top was wind sheared), average crown spread 106 ft., footprint 24 ft. in diameter, and verified ring count 1755 years! The archival pictures show that the tree had robust foliage and was in

good health when felled. Oregon has amazing giant trees and shrubs, and the historical trees were even more astounding.

—Frank Callahan, Siskiyou Chapter

OregonFlora



OregonFlora continues to gather and share information about the plants of the state. Volume 2 of the *Flora of Oregon* is ever closer to going to the printer. Volume 3 is well underway, with some minor adjustments to our workflow that social distancing requires. We are still aiming for a mid-summer launch of the new, Symbiota-based OregonFlora website—stay tuned!

While many of the activities OregonFlora was scheduled to contribute to—wildflower shows, walks, pollinator festivals—have been cancelled, our digital resources still offer a way for people to learn and enjoy our native flora. View a [webinar](#) about gardening with native species, browse the [Photo Gallery](#), or take the Oregon Wildflowers [plant identification app](#) along when going outdoors. Hopefully these challenging times give us permission to slow down a bit and be more observant of what is around us.

Your support at this time is more important than ever. As many funding opportunities are being postponed or eliminated, our staff continues its behind-the-scenes work to provide the public with unlimited access to botanical information. Please contribute to OregonFlora to help our program thrive!

Contributions can be made [online](#) or mailed directly to: Agricultural Research Foundation, 1600 SW Western Blvd. Ste. 320, Corvallis, OR 97333. Please make checks payable to the Agricultural Research Foundation and include “OFP” on the memo line.

- Linda Hardison

State & Chapter Notes

State Notes/Announcements:

NPSO Elections

Electronic ballots are due May 17th. See the April eBulletin for candidate profiles. If you

haven't yet, [click here to vote!](#) Newly elected members will take office prior to the May 30th board meeting.

2020 NPSO Annual Meeting Canceled

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in the best interests for the health and safety of our members, the Cheahmill Chapter has canceled the Annual Meeting this year. We are exploring hosting the meeting next year (2021) at Spirit Mountain Lodge and offering much the same program.

If you have already sent in your registration form and payment, your checks will be shredded. Those whose checks were already deposited will receive a refund.

We look forward to seeing all of you in 2021, hopefully at Spirit Mountain. Please stay safe and healthy through this difficult time.

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## **Chapter Notes:**

### **Blue Mountain**

For information on Blue Mountain Chapter, call Jerry Baker, 541-566-2244. To get on our email list, contact [flora.id@wtechlink.us](mailto:flora.id@wtechlink.us).

### **Spring and Summer Field Trips**

The Blue Mountain Chapter in Pendleton and Flora ID, a non-profit botanical organization, are sponsoring weekly field trips throughout the spring and summer. For schedules and updates re: cancelations, contact Bruce Barnes 541-377-2634, [flora.id@wtechlink.us](mailto:flora.id@wtechlink.us)

### **Ceahmill**

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).

Check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NPSO.Ceahmill/>.

Meeting and work party location: Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 NW Adams St. (corner of Highway 99W and SW Second St.), McMinnville. The library parking lot may be entered from either Adams or Second streets. Meetings start at 7 pm. Doors open at 6:45 pm for socializing.

### **Corvallis**

For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis Chapter email list, contact [co\\_president@NPSOregon.org](mailto:co_president@NPSOregon.org). Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO](https://www.facebook.com/CorvallisNPSO).

**Monday, May 11th, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Chapter Meeting, Virtual via Zoom**

OSU graduate student Lilah Gonen will present “The Community Ecology of Foliar Endophytes of Douglas-Fir on the Pacific Northwest Coast”. She explains, “Despite being host to multiple well-known foliar diseases, the foliar microbiome of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) has never been adequately described. Here, I explore the composition of fungi and oomycetes residing in Douglas-fir needle tissue and examine to what degree these communities are associated with differences in climate, host, and disease.” This meeting will be held virtually on Zoom. To attend you must rsvp via email to [co\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:co_president@npsoregon.org) by 6 p.m. on May 11th.

**Emerald**

Visit the Emerald Chapter website 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.

**Emerald Chapter currently has no in-person events scheduled in May or June. We have two on-line events planned, but since details have not been finalized, we have created a new Emerald Chapter email list to alert members to events and opportunities as they arise.**

**On-line Event: May 13th-17th**

The Mount Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower and Music Festival is NOT canceled, just moved to a virtual community event. We'll be social distancing and staying safe to stop the spread of COVID-19. As long as you are following public health guidelines for where you live, you can join the fun! Find all the details and upload your wildflower observations and photos. <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/lane-county-wildflower-show-bioblitz-2020>

**Tentative On-Line Workshop: Week of May 18th, date TBA (probably evening)**

Rose Identification Workshop, on-line. Still in the development stage. Learn about roses that are native and naturalized to Oregon. After a short presentation about wild roses and their habitats you will be guided through examination of different native and naturalized species and become more familiar with distinctive characteristics that distinguish the different rose species you might encounter in our region.

**Filipendula**

For more information, visit our Facebook page: [NPSO-Filipendula Chapter](#), or contact Field Trip Chair Carla Cole, [carlajeancole@gmail.com](mailto:carlajeancole@gmail.com).

**All year: North Oregon Restoration Partnership potting days in Tillamook, OR at the nursery, with Maysa Miller**

We will share the volunteer activity dates, and encourage everyone to join during the year to help the nursery with potting up native plants. It's a great way to pick up new skills in potting and handling native plants. Contact Carla Cole to sign up; her email

address is [carlajeancole@gmail.com](mailto:carlajeancole@gmail.com).

### **High Desert**

For information and to sign up for hikes, 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).

### **Klamath Basin**

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, visit <http://klamathbasinnps.com>.

### **Mid-Columbia**

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

### **Portland**

Please visit the new Portland Chapter Website at <https://portlandnativeplants.org/>, launched in December 2019! Outings and Programs along with photos and articles from members about the Metro region and Columbia River Gorge will be found there with more being added all the time. Some Field Trip outings and all Programs are posted on the NPSO Meetup - Portland Chapter page at <https://www.meetup.com/NPSO-Portland/>. Our Facebook page is regularly updated with current wildflower bloom status and photos at <https://www.facebook.com/nps.portland/>. Chapter Members also receive the monthly or bi-monthly "Calochortus" eNewsletter by email with Chapter Field Trips, news, and events in the Metro area. If you are not receiving the eNewsletter currently, check your Spam folder. Let us know if you changed your email address by sending it to [po\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:po_president@npsoregon.org).

### **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](mailto: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, make a suggestion, or provide feedback regarding the field trip program, please contact Katelyn Detweiler, [detweiler.katelyn@gmail.com](mailto:detweiler.katelyn@gmail.com). Join us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon>

**Save the Date:** July 4th Wildflower Show in Ashland, Oregon

### **Umpqua Valley**

Visit [umpquavallevynativeplants.com](http://umpquavallevynativeplants.com) for more information on chapter activities or to be added to our email list. Check out our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO](https://www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO). Not online - call Donna Rawson 541-643-0364.

We meet in Roseburg then carpool or caravan to destination. If you plan to participate,

you must RSVP Rod Trotter 541-672-1907 or Donna 541-643-0364 to confirm your participation. Plans can change on short notice due to weather or flower bloom. NOTE: Many field trip destinations offer no facilities. Umpqua Forest Service advises to protect yourself from mosquitoes in the high country this time of year.

\*We are organizing a monthly work party for landscape maintenance of the three native plant gardens we are continuing to enhance. If you like to work with plants and have some flexible time we could use your help. Contact Donna at 541-643-0364 (call or text).

### Willamette Valley

For program information, contact John Savage at 503-779-5414, [john@straubcenter.org](mailto:john@straubcenter.org).

### William Cusick

Chapter notices and communications are done primarily through a Google group. For more information or to be added to the Google group, please contact Susan Geer at 541-963-0477 or [susanmgeer@gmail.com](mailto:susanmgeer@gmail.com). Find us on Instagram at [instagram.com/wm.cusick.chapter](https://www.instagram.com/wm.cusick.chapter). Our website is not currently functional.

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### **NPSO State Officers**

- President: Lisa Blackburn, [president@npsoregon.org](mailto:president@npsoregon.org)
- Immediate Past President: Kelli Van Norman, [past\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:past_president@npsoregon.org)
- Vice-president: Thea Jaster, [vice-president@npsoregon.org](mailto:vice-president@npsoregon.org)
- Secretary: Steven Yeager, [secretary@npsoregon.org](mailto:secretary@npsoregon.org)
- Treasurer: Cyndi Dion, [treasurer@npsoregon.org](mailto:treasurer@npsoregon.org)
- Directors: Dan Luoma, Karl Anderson, Stephen Meyers, Gail Baker, Jason Clinch, Sarah Ratay

### **Committees & Chairs**

- Budgets and Grants: [Dan Luoma](#)
- Conservation: [Dawn Anzinger](#)
- Friends Of The Oregon Flora Project: [Linda Hardison](#)
- Legislative: [Vacant](#)
- Membership: [Margaret Conover](#)
- NPSO Fellows: [Cindy Roché and Kareen Sturgeon](#)
- Rare & Endangered Plants: [Jason Clinch](#)
- Publications: [Cindy Roché and Kareen Sturgeon](#)
- Bulletin Editor: [Lisa Schomaker](#)
- Webmaster: [Sunia Yang](#)
- More information about our NPSO Fellows [here](#).

Chapter Presidents and contact information [can be found here](#).

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Website



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