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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

**June 2020**

Volume 53, No. 5



Purple sage (*Salvia dorrii*) adds botanical color to the rainbow of rocks at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, June 2019. Photo by Lisa Schomaker.

**We hope you enjoy the June eBulletin!**

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**Table of Contents:**

[- Species of the Month: Calypso orchid](#)

- [Grass Identification Workshop](#)
- [Book Review: The Other Oregon](#)
- [Book Review: Mariposa Lilies Exposed](#)
- [OregonFlora](#)
- [State/Chapter Notes](#)

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If you have any questions, please contact us at [bulletin@npsoregon.org](mailto:bulletin@npsoregon.org).

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## Species of the Month: Calypso orchid



**Calypso orchid, Fairy Slipper**  
(*Calypso bulbosa* var. *occidentalis*)

*If I knew where Calypso bloomed,  
I would not tell the ladies, but I would tell you*

*For you would not take the flower, for money or for love  
Or harm a single petal, 'cause you would not shoot the dove*

- Joan Baez - If I Knew © EMI Music Publishing

The calypso orchid is a widespread herbaceous species that occurs in coniferous and mixed forests of high northern latitudes around the world (i.e., its range is circumboreal). This sylvan species inhabits a wide elevation range, from near sea level to mid- and high-elevation in the Coast Range, Cascade, Siskiyou, Blue, and Willowa Mountains (Oregon Plant Atlas). In late April of this year I encountered the calypso orchid at a coniferous forest site near Shotgun Creek in the Coburg Hills between the Mohawk and Willamette Valleys. This mature stand of Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) was surrounded by clearcuts, yet under the intact canopy, calypso orchids were abundant throughout the lush moss and thick litter of the forest floor.

*Calypso* is a monotypic genus characterized by a solitary bright pink flower bearing an inflated pouch (saccate lip) resembling a delicate slipper. Shoots with a single, broadly ovate, cordate-based leaf emerge each spring from an underground corm, hence the specific epithet *bulbosa*. The genus name is shared with the beautiful nymph of Greek mythology who held Odysseus on an island for seven years, and translates from Greek “to cover” or “to conceal.”

Oregon hosts one (var. *occidentalis*) of four natural varieties and one naturalized hybrid. It grows in mountainous areas of California, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, and British Columbia. The flowers are open-pollinated and self-compatible, and the plant employs a deception strategy in attracting native *Bombus* species that serve as pollinators (Ackerman 1981). Newly emerged queens are drawn to floral markings inside the floral pouch, which indicate the presence of a nectar reward. The advertisement is, however, a ruse, and visitation often declines quickly as individual bees learn that there is no return for their efforts. Consequently, as with other species employing similar deception strategies, pollination and fruit set can be low, although this could also be attributable to other environmental conditions such as canopy cover (Abeli et al. 2013).

For all appreciators of wildflowers, the calypso orchid is a beautiful early spring denizen that draws us to seek it in the forested slopes of our mountain ranges in Oregon.

- Nathan LeClear

#### Literature Cited

Abeli, T., Jäkäläniemi, A., Wannas, L., Mutikainen, P.I.A., Tuomi, J., 2013. Pollen limitation and fruiting failure related to canopy closure in *Calypso bulbosa* (Orchidaceae), a northern food-deceptive orchid with a single flower. *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* 171, 744-750.

Ackerman, J.D., 1981. Pollination biology of *Calypso bulbosa* var. *occidentalis* (Orchidaceae): a food-deception system. *Madroño* 28, 101-110.

## Grass Identification Workshop

Are you looking for an opportunity to learn the grasses? Perhaps you've mastered the common wildflowers and are ready to go to the next level of difficulty? Here is a workshop that will help you get there.



### Grass Identification Workshop

#### Southeastern Washington Summer 2020

Date: 3 days in July or August.

(Tentative date July 19-21)

Location: various field sites within 60 miles of Walla Walla, Washington. The original plan was to use the biology lab at Whitman College; instead we will focus on field identification. Study sessions are available [www.grassesandmore.wixsite.com/grasses](http://www.grassesandmore.wixsite.com/grasses) and students should review these before the workshop.

Price:

\$335 includes the textbook (*Field Guide to the Grasses of Oregon and Washington*)

\$300 (the textbook is required, but students may bring their own copy)

Add \$10 when paying by credit card or Paypal

Limit: 20 students

While on the field trips, we will meet all state mandates concerning COVID-19 for protecting class participants. I will bring a portable PA system so that students do not need to cluster closely to hear the instruction. Participants will have to drive their own vehicles; carpooling is allowed for people who have come to the workshop together. We

ask that participants use common sense and respect each other's need to stay healthy.

Registration questions or for more information contact Cindy Roché

email: [grassesandmore@gmail.com](mailto:grassesandmore@gmail.com)

website: <https://grassesandmore.wixsite.com/grasses>

The workshop will be taught by Dr. Cindy Roché, a life member of WNPS since 1997 and a member of NPSO since 1998. Roché is one of the five authors of the *Field Guide to Grasses of Oregon and Washington*, which will be used as the textbook for the workshop. The workshop includes review of grass morphology and terms, practice keying in the field using a hand lens with fresh grass specimens, and exposure to recent taxonomic name changes. We will work with as wide a range of grass genera as possible in the area, including common and rare, as well as native and introduced species (including noxious weeds). We will also explore ways to identify the grasses by vegetative characters. The later date will allow us to include fresh material of higher elevation species as well as warm season grasses at the lower elevations. The *Field Guide to Grasses of Oregon and Washington*, published in 2019 by OSU Press, is the culmination of 16 years of work with the Carex Working Group photographing, mapping, and developing keys for all Poaceae species growing outside cultivation in Oregon and Washington.

This workshop is useful to anyone who needs or wants to be able to identify the components of the environment that belong to the grass family (dryland and wetland ecologists, wildlife biologists, weed specialists, farmers, range conservationists, and anyone with a curiosity about the world around them). It can be a refresher for long-past education or a start for beginners. Workshop participants should have basic plant identification skills, willingness to learn to perceive small features and patience for using keys featuring minor or overlapping differences.

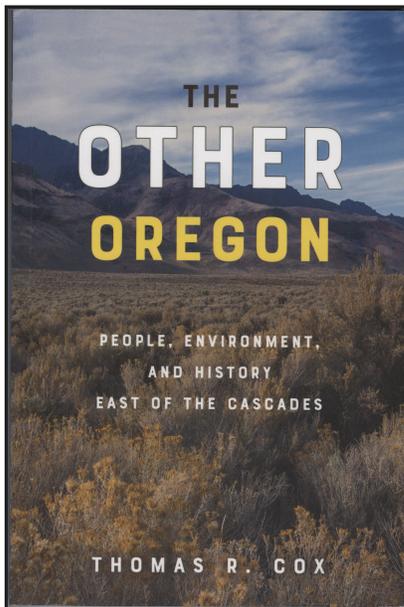
Dr. Roché has been working with grasses for over 40 years, starting as a range conservationist with the Forest Service in northeastern Washington. She completed an MS in range ecology at Washington State University in 1987, and a PhD in Plant Science at the University of Idaho in 1996. After moving to Oregon, she worked as an illustrator for the grass volumes for the *Flora of North America*, and as a field botany contractor for the BLM and Forest Service at Medford. Four years ago, she moved back to the east side of the Cascades, where she has gained a deeper appreciation for the dry-side grasses.

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## Book Review: The Other Oregon

**The Other Oregon: People, Environment, and History East of the Cascades**

Thomas R. Cox. 2019. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis. 431 pages with notes and bibliography. Paperback. \$29.95.



Dr. Thomas R. Cox, professor emeritus of history at San Diego State University, in San Diego, has produced a work that is the result of his passion for Oregon. Having grown up in eastern Oregon, and a graduate of the OSU History Department, with an UO Doctorate, he admits he was warned not to write about this subject during his working career. After his retirement, he chose to publish this book despite the cautions expressed to him. He felt he had to tell the story that he believed was so important and that he had kept unwritten for years.

To the botanists who might be interested in this book, Cox is not a botanist, nor is he interested in botany, but he describes the use of the land of eastern Oregon by how its natural resources were exploited. Thus, his book can be useful as a background of how and when these extractive impacts occurred, which is relevant to both conservation and botanical issues.

It is easy to imagine how he had been saving bits of stories and historical connections throughout his academic years, accumulating notes and bibliography. And now, finally, he could highlight his belief that the land and the people were interdependent. Cox wants to explain how these sixteen counties experienced a separate and distinct history than the other 40 percent of the area of Oregon.

The Oregon Trail in the 1840-60s traversed only the northeastern part of the newly-minted state, following the Snake, Owyhee and Columbia Rivers westward toward the ultimate goal of the luxuriously green areas around the Willamette Valley. An 1860 map of the new state of Oregon, however, distinctly labels everything south of that wagon route through eastern Oregon as “Unexplored.” The scholarship of the history of this region is scarce, and rarely gets its due.

He tasks himself to describe the economic development of eastern Oregon using extractive industries as a theme. He begins with early settlement, and describes the environmental impact of the successive decades of discovery and resource extraction. Starting in the 1850s, miners started expanding into Oregon, trying to ascertain if its mineral resources could yield as well as those in California. Next, cattle and sheep owners moved in to support the prospectors, miners and an influx of settlers seeking irrigation to water the desert. Old growth forests provided lumber for a growing nation. Railroads arrived to move these ‘extractables’ to other markets. Oregon’s resources were heavily used, and due to continued disturbance and changing climate, few areas have recovered to the lush dryland fescues and wildrye that Cox envisions.

The story Cox tells is not without merit. While there are century-old ranches in eastern Oregon, just as there are Century Farms in the Willamette Valley, he ignores the environmental strategies that must be part of preserving their long-term source of livelihood. The story from Cox’s personal strategy was to look at all the counties together. By focusing on this he is diverted from the rich stories of the people who

inhabited this spare land with its harsh, dry climate. By removing that voice in his works, he misses the personal and cultural stories that really tie the land together.

He begins a strong story about the Malheur region of Harney County in the 1860s when Peter French and Hugh Glenn from the Sacramento area brought herds of cattle into the area for summer forage. He seems dismissive as he says the conflict ended in “death.” He doesn’t say anything about the conflict, or even who died (Peter French). As this happens, chapter after chapter, newcomers to this topic will be left confused. His concluding chapter revisits southeastern Oregon to tell the story of the armed occupation of the Malheur Refuge in 2016. The book was published before the 2019 world premiere in Burns of the “Malheur Symphony” by composer Chris Thomas of Pendleton, aimed at rejoicing and healing the people of the post-incursion Malheur lands, and performed by the Central Oregon Symphony.

So why should you consider having this book in your library? To Cox’s credit, his scholarship and thorough crediting of sources are reflective of his academic background. One can spend as much time reading his notes and bibliography as the text to piece the stories together. There are so few complete compilations of this specific region’s bibliographies that this one book references, it could well become a long-time ‘go-to’ on any scholar’s bookshelf. One of its drawbacks is that it does not make reference to some of the more recent and complete resources. Wayne Kee, of Prineville, for one, has put out two volumes describing the most important scholarly and printed materials on eastern Oregon.

— *Susan E. Schneider, High Desert Chapter*

**About the reviewer:** Susan E. Schneider, MScEd (OSU), came to Bend as a six-year-old in 1954 where she grew up, riding her horse through town. After college and graduate school, she eventually returned to Bend to raise her children in a four-generation family. She was associated for fifteen years with the High Desert Museum, beginning as a volunteer and serving later as a Curator. She also worked at the Deschutes County Historical Society, Central Oregon Community College Foundation, and opened the Bend office for the Oregon Community Foundation. She spent four years on the Board of the Museum at Warm Springs. She has written and spoken professionally about Native Peoples and natural history subjects of eastern Oregon.

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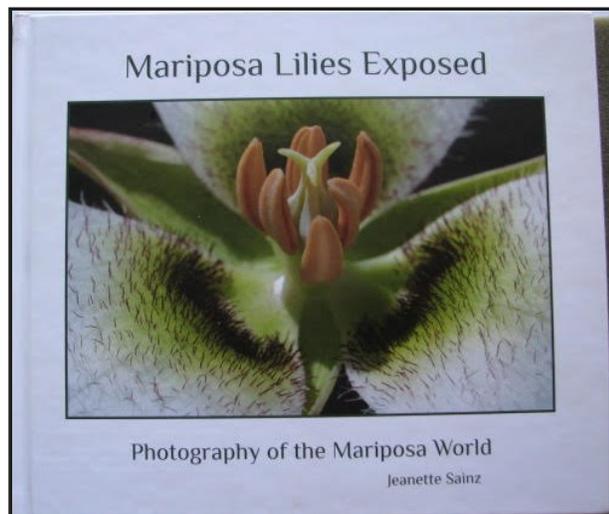
## Book Review: Mariposa Lilies Exposed

### **Mariposa Lilies Exposed - Photography of the Mariposa World**

Jeanette Sainz. 2020. no ISBN number. 234 pp. Self-published by the author through Blurb. Available for \$175 plus shipping from Jeanette Sainz (PO Box 438, Los Alamos, CA 93440). The book measures 12 ¾ x 11 x 1" and weighs just over 4.5 lbs.

This book is the culmination of the decades that Jeanette travelled with her husband Darwin Sainz in pursuit of photos of the genus *Calochortus*. This beautiful coffee table

book celebrates these flowers that resemble butterflies in their complex color patterns (thus the name mariposa, Spanish for butterfly). The name *Calochortus*, means “beautiful grass” in Greek. As the title “Exposed” infers, this book is a collection of excellent close-up images of mariposa lilies that grow in Western North American. Although the genus extends into Mexico, those species that grow only south of the border are not included. Ron Parsons



(co-author with Mary Gerritsen of the 2007 book *Calochortus*) wrote the foreward, which is followed by a Table of Contents organized by the three subsections: *Calochortus* (Pulchelli, Eleganti, Nudi, and Nitidi), Mariposa (Venusti, Macrocarpi, Nuttalliani, and Gunnisoniani) and *Cyclobothra* (Weediani). A few introductory pages describe hybrids, response to fire (*Calochortus* are often fire-followers), and non-conformists. (Nonconformists are *Calochortus* species that mix up the colors and patterns that are strikingly different from the norm.) Sainz gives a history of her life-long love of mariposa lilies, summarizing 40 years spent searching for them: "These outings can take anywhere from hours to days, driving endless miles, searching roadsides, climbing hills, dealing with insects, ticks, poison oak, foxtails and heat, all the while discussing what's next." On the following pages the reader is rewarded by exceptional photographs with multiple images of each species of *Calochortus*, including some habitat photos. This book does not contain distribution maps nor does it describe the taxonomy that distinguishes the various species. It is simply a wonderful celebration of the beauty of this group of flowers.

Disclaimer: Jeanette, Darwin (her late husband) and I traveled many miles together photographing *Calochortus*. Together, we traveled with fellow Siskiyou Chapter member John Erwin to photograph coastal California species. If your passion lies in mariposa lilies, I strongly recommend this book.

- Frank Callahan, Siskiyou Chapter

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## OregonFlora

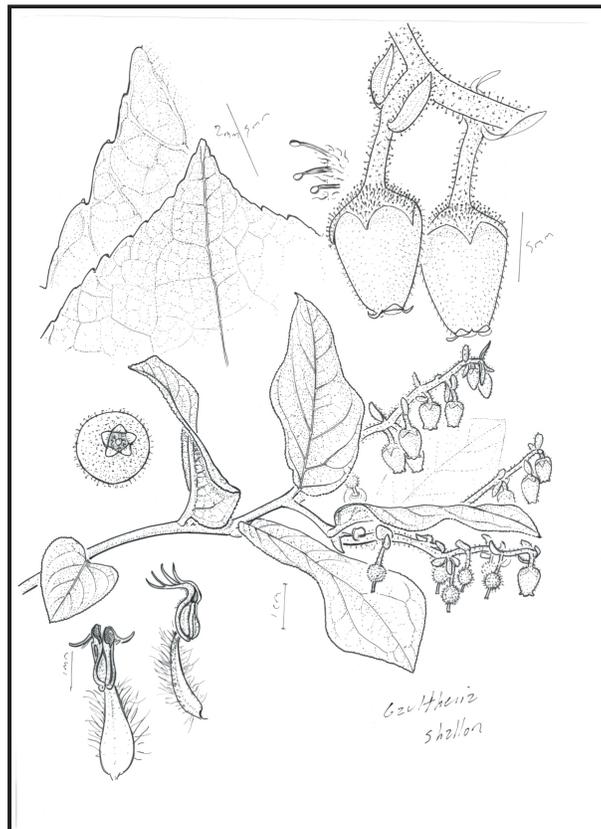
Volume 2 of the *Flora of Oregon* (dicot families Aizoaceae - Fagaceae) will, like Volume 1, present at least one illustration of every genus being described. John Myers, OregonFlora's principal artist, has created hundreds of original pen and ink drawings for this volume. For each taxon, he prepares a pencil sketch based on the resources available: herbarium specimens, photographs, and live material. A whole plant drawing captures the growth habit of the taxon, and illustrations of various plant details help

users understand distinguishing features. Once confirmed to align with the taxonomic description and identification key leads, John then applies permanent ink to the pencil sketches and scale bars. The artwork is then scanned and arranged—often with drawings of other taxa—into plates. Tanya Harvey orchestrates the design and layout of the Flora volumes, arranging both the written and the graphic content of the flora to become a resource that is both beautiful and enjoyable to use.

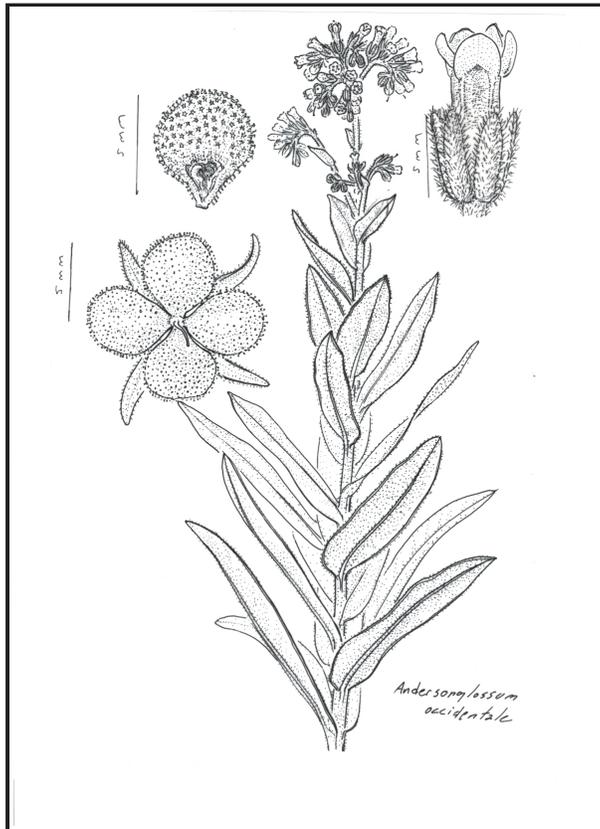
Due to budget cuts within OregonFlora, John is no longer a staff member; however, we are exceedingly fortunate to have him continue his work for the Flora on a contractual basis as funds are available. Stay tuned for information about a challenge drive later this year to support the complete illustration of Volume 3 of *Flora of Oregon*!

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.

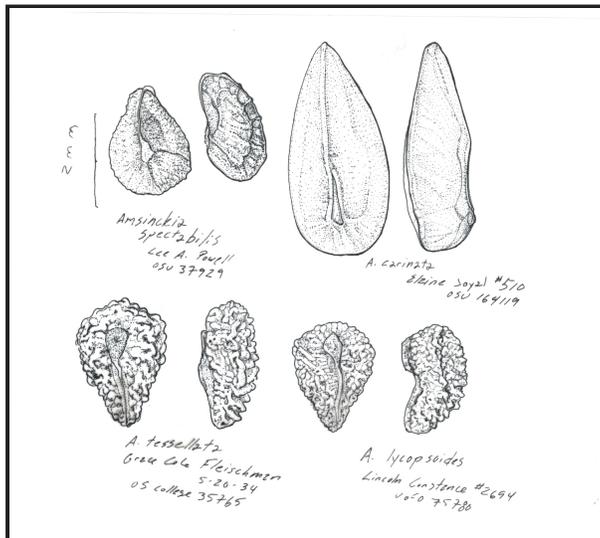
Below are some of John’s illustrations that will appear in Volume 2.



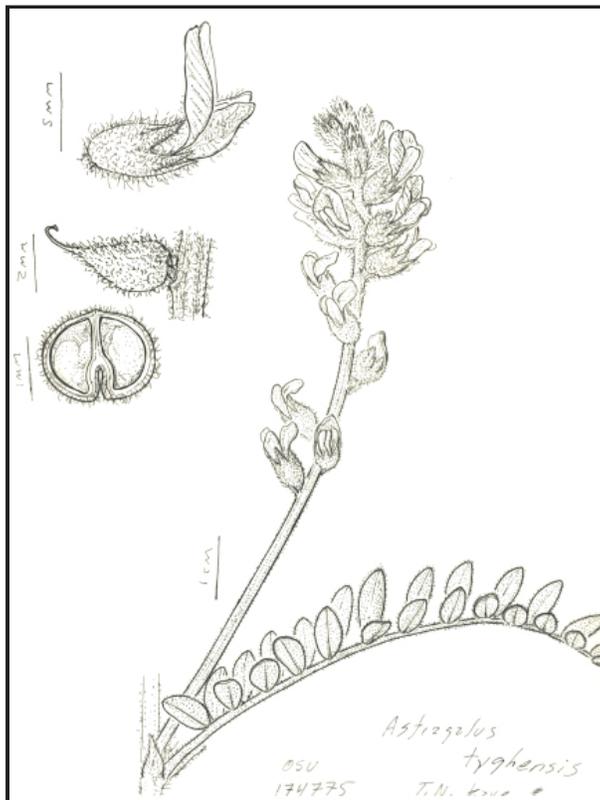
Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)



Western hound's tongue (*Andersonglossum occidentale*)



Nutlets from *Amsinckia* species (Boraginaceae)



Tygh Valley milkvetch (*Astragalus tyghensis*)

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## State & Chapter Notes

### State Notes/Announcements:

The state board meeting took place virtually on May 30th. Newly elected state officers are listed at the end of the bulletin.

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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).

#### Summer Field Trips

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

## 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).

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).

## 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.

**\*Note:** At this time Emerald Chapter has no in-person events scheduled in June or July. However, if this changes, Emerald Chapter members will be notified by email and events will be posted to our website at <https://emerald.npsoregon.org/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/emerald.npsoregon/>

## 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 [highdesertnpsoregon@gmail.com](mailto:highdesertnpsoregon@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

Our members receive *The Calochortus*, our monthly newsletter with field trips, programs, news, and events for the Portland area. If you are not receiving it, check your spam folder and notify [po\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:po_president@npsoregon.org) of any email address change. You'll also find our monthly programs and additional field trips posted on our Meetup 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/>. Visit our website at <https://portlandnativeplants.org/>

**\*Note:** *The Calochortus* newsletter and Meetup page are currently paused until September or until state contagion guidelines again permit in-person group activities. Stay tuned!

## 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>

## **WE MISS YOU!**

The Siskiyou Chapter has cancelled spring and early summer hikes, programs, and events to help protect our community. Especially disappointing, we were planning on working with Southern Oregon University students on our first spring wildflower show at the university during Native Plant Week. Our annual Irene Hollenbeck July 4th Wildflower Show is also cancelled. We do plan on carefully holding some hikes later this summer - stay tuned - and plan on sharing online programs next fall. Lately, our presence on social media has increased - check out our Facebook page and please feel free to share content.

## **Help us make a community video!**

The Siskiyou Chapter board recently met on Zoom. Looking for an alternative to the July 4th Wildflower Show, we decided to create a community native plant video with your help. We are looking for short 1-2-minute phone videos featuring a few native plants you

love, a flower-rich place, or even plants from your native plant garden. We hope you can provide some interpretation and would love to see people in the videos too. Chapter members can submit their videos

here: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rgCisxIhOno9Ym7Z2Zx7D4HPR6mxC4-z?usp=sharing>. If you need assistance, please contact Suzie at [klamathsiskiy@gmail.com](mailto:klamathsiskiy@gmail.com).

Video submission deadline is June 15th. We hope you have fun with this and participate! See the announcement on how to watch the video next month in the eBulletin, the chapter eNews, and on our Facebook page.

### Umpqua Valley

Visit [umpquavallevnativeplants.com](http://umpquavallevnativeplants.com) for more information on chapter activities or to be added to our email list. Check out our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/UmpquaValleyNPSO](http://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: Dan Luoma, [president@npsoregon.org](mailto:president@npsoregon.org)
- Immediate Past President: Lisa Blackburn, [past\\_president@npsoregon.org](mailto:past_president@npsoregon.org)
- Vice-president: Lisa Blackburn, [vice-president@npsoregon.org](mailto:vice-president@npsoregon.org)
- Secretary: Steven Yeager, [secretary@npsoregon.org](mailto:secretary@npsoregon.org)
- Treasurer: Michael Hartman, [treasurer@npsoregon.org](mailto:treasurer@npsoregon.org)

- Directors: Gail Baker, Jason Clinch, Sarah Ratay, Dave Garcia, Linda Hardison, Bruce Waugh

## 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



Facebook

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