



Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 38, No. 5

MAY 2005

Flowering in the Land of Umpqua

by David McClurg, Emerald Chapter

My son Erik found a solitary *Clarkia amoena* (farewell-to-spring) on top of Tire Mountain last June and we thought that was special because we had never seen one before. We used a 25 cent wildflower guide compiled by the Emerald Chapter (Love R. et al. 2003. *Spring and Summer Wildflower Displays*). Hunting for flowers gives us something to do when we're not fishing. But I suppose the two things are not all that different. It takes somebody else to show you where to look and then you're hooked.

This year, on a surprisingly warm and blue-sky Saturday in late February (26th), I drove down from Eugene and joined the Umpqua chapter on a field trip to Beatty Creek RNA (Carter S.

2004. *Kalmiopsis* Volume 11). Ron Hatt, chapter president, met me and over a dozen other flower hunters at I-5 exit 103. Ron is fun to hang around with—an amateur photographer with an ambitious field trip schedule who likes to share what he knows and learns.

We followed Highway 39 to the tilted beds of marine conglomerate that form the north side of the Cow Creek canyon where Beatty Creek comes down from the serpentine areas beyond. At the base of the slope, to the left of the tick-infested trees and brush in Beatty Creek itself, the ground was covered with *Plagiobothrys nothofulvus* (rusty popcorn flower). Mary Carlson identified it for me and told me to rub my finger on the leaf; it left an interesting rust colored dust. Carefully navigating *Toxicodendron diversilobum* (poison oak), we found *Olsynium douglasii* blooming on the plateau above mixed

in with *Saxifraga integrifolia* (swamp saxifrage) and *Lithophragma parviflorum* (small-flowered woodland star). Further up the canyon, we found *Crocidium multicaule* (spring gold) and *Nemophila menziesii* (baby blue eyes). Nearing the top of the canyon, among rocks dotted with *Lomatium utriculatum* (common lomatium), we squeezed through the boughs of a beautiful madrone to enjoy the sweeping view of the canyon and creek below.

After the dry spell in February, the end of March felt wet and cold. Gail Baker had missed the February trip so we scheduled another short trip on March 22. Ron was kind enough to meet us again at the same exit. The base of the slope now had *Dichelostemma capitatum* (blue dicks) and *Amsinckia lycopsooides* (fiddleneck). The *Olsynium* on the plateau above was

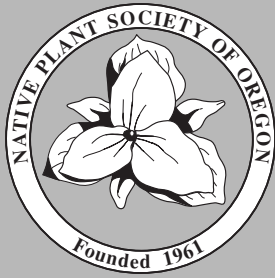
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May 1-8 is Native Plant Appreciation Week!

May 1-8, 2005 promises to be a memorable week for NPSO as we celebrate our first ever Native Plant Appreciation Week (NPAW). The list of planned events is impressive, and includes wildflower shows, hikes, invasive species work parties, plant ID workshops, garden tours and more! I encourage you to visit our newly updated website (www.NPSOregon.org) where you can learn more about the purpose of NPAW, find a comprehensive list of events happening across the state, and admire the official proclamation from Governor Kulongoski. I hope you are all able to participate in at least one of the many events planned for this week. Please take the time to share your enthusiasm for native plants with others and encourage participation by people outside of the established NPSO circle. Happy botanizing! Please contact Matt Blakeley-Smith if you have any questions: mattbs@peak.org, 541-752-1091.



Native Plant Society of Oregon

World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

E-mail Discussion List

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

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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.

Update on Annual Meeting in Roseburg

This year's NPSO annual meeting will take place in Roseburg and will be hosted by the Umpqua Valley Chapter. Information on lodging, hikes and registration were included in the March *Bulletin*. Be sure to save June 24-26 for a terrific week-end of botanizing.

Optional field trips for Friday afternoon have not yet been scheduled. Friday evening the Phoenix School will be open at 4 pm for those who are setting up displays about their chapter or setting up to sell items that are pertinent to the native plant theme. Registration will begin at 5 pm. Appetizers will be served at 6 pm along with a presentation that has not been yet determined.

Saturday field trips will begin at 8:30 am. Coffee and doughnuts will be available at the school and box lunches can be picked up around 8 am. Saturday's banquet will begin at 7 pm. Business meeting and program follow dinner.

Sunday morning times for the board meeting and optional field trips will be announced.

The T-shirts for the annual meeting will be available at registration for those who pre-ordered the shirts. For those wishing to purchase a T-shirt, orders will be taken during the weekend and the cost of postage added to the cost of the shirts.

Flowering in the Land of Umpqua

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replaced with a large population of *Dodecatheon hendersonii* (shooting star). At times, where it got steep, we had to walk carefully on the wet fragile soils. Back along Highway 39, we made side trips to see *Calypso bulbosa* and *Erythronium oregonum* (fawn lily) at Island Creek picnic area and a lovely little *Mimulus douglasii* (mouse ears) in a serpentine area across the railroad tracks from Byer's flat. *M. douglasii* seemed to prefer the disturbed soils.

I still dream about the creeks and rocks and cliffs in Douglas county. I returned for two more field trips, once with my whole family, to see the red-backed petals of *Ranunculus austro-oreganus* (southern oregon buttercup), a whole field turned pink by *Thysanocarpus radians* (large fringpod), the delicate petals of *Coptis lancinata* (Fern-leaved goldthread), dazzling *Silene hookeri* (Indian pink), and *Viola hallii* blooming. I really appreciate the Umpqua chapter letting me come along on their field trips. They have all been very warm and friendly to me. I'm looking forward to the 2005 NPSO annual summer meeting in Roseburg. They are going to share some of their best wildflower sites (see the field trip schedule March *Bulletin*). And then I can share them too.



The red-violet upper petals of Viola hallii contrast beautifully with its white lower petals, each of which has a bright yellow blotch and red-violet veins. It is found in open forests, grassy hills, serpentine and gravelly soils of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California.

TANYA HARVEY

State

June 24-26, Friday - Sunday

Annual Meeting: The Umpqua Valley chapter will host the Annual Meeting at the Phoenix School on Diamond Lake Blvd. in Roseburg. More information and registration materials were included in March issue of the *Bulletin*.

Blue Mountain

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

Cheahmill

May 1, Sunday, 11 am – 2 pm*

Event: Open Garden at the McMinnville Library Native Plant Garden. To celebrate Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Week, the McMinnville Library Native Plant Garden Coalition—a coalition of Cheahmill Chapter NPSO members, Yamhill County Master Gardeners and Friends of the Library—will host an open garden at the library. The public is invited. Light refreshments and garden tours will be available. For info contact Susan Williams at helgesusan@comcast.net or 503-538-1865. Check our chapter website: www.oregon-nativeplants.com.

May 21, Saturday, 11 am – 4 pm

Event: Cheahmill Chapter's 6th Annual Wildflower Show & Native Plant Sale at the McMinnville Public Library, 225 N. Adams St. Labeled specimens of 'locally-collected' native flowers, shrubs and trees will be on display in the Carnegie Room. NPSO members will provide informational handouts and answer questions. The Yamhill County Master Gardener's native plant photo display will be set up. Tours of the Library's native plant garden will be available on request. A wide variety of reasonably-priced native annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees will be for sale. For info contact Susan

*Special Native Plant Appreciation Week Event

Williams 503- 538-1865 or helgesusan@comcast.net.

May 26, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: The Hidden Life of Native Plants—Mycorrhizae and Plant Roots. Darlene Southworth, who taught biology at Southern Oregon University for 22 years and is currently NPSO's West side conservation chair, will explain the nature of mycorrhizal

relationships and the important role these hidden interactions play in our native habitats. Dr. Southworth will focus on the 'fungal life below ground' that is associated with the Oregon white oaks and other natives. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Library, 225 NW Adams St., McMinnville. For more info contact Susan Williams 503-538-1865 or helgesusan@comcast.net.

Corvallis

May 1, Sunday, 11 am - 5 pm*

Spring Garden Sale and Native Plant Appreciation Week Kickoff. Come start Native Plant Appreciation week off right! The Corvallis Chapter will have a booth at the spring garden sale, along with numerous other garden supply and garden craft vendors, in front of the Corvallis Art Center, across from the Public Library. Now is the time to purchase some really inexpensive natives to plant in your own yard. We will have kids activities at our booth. We are looking for volunteers to help staff our booth. Free. For more info call John Syring at 541-752-0414.

May 1, Sunday, 10 am*

Field Trip: The Flora of Witham Hill. Kick off Native Plant Appreciation Week with a local field trip! Louise Marquering will lead this trip to explore the local flora and the potential for native plant restoration. Corvallis area folks meet at the OSU parking lot SW of the Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis, at 9:45 am. For more information please contact Louise Marquering at Patch1L@aol.com.

May 7, Saturday, 10 am*

Field Trip: Jackson Frazier Wetlands. Join John Syring on a down-and-dirty walk through the Jackson Frazier Wetlands and see some of the remarkable remnant flora of the valley floor. Bring swamp boots or old shoes and prepare to get wet! Meet at the OSU parking lot SW of the Beanery, 26th and

IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. **Bring water and lunch.** Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Participation is at your own risk. Be prepared to sign a release form indicating this. For a sample copy check out the NPSO website. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Dogs are not allowed. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome. National Forests require a Northwest Forest Pass for many 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.

Monroe, Corvallis, at 9:45 am. For more info call John Syring at 541-752-0414.

May 9, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Golden Paintbrush Common Garden Studies: selecting seed sources and reintroduction sites for an endangered prairie species. Beth Lawrence, an NPSO-funded soon-to-be graduate of OSU will be presenting this award-winning talk covering her masters research. Avery House, Avery Park, Corvallis. For more information contact John Syring at 541-752-0414.

May 23, Monday, 9 am–1 pm

Field Trip: Oak Savanna/Upland Prairie Restoration. See Willamette Valley chapter events for more information. For Corvallis folks interested in carpooling contact John Syring at 541-752-0414 or for more information call Lynda Boyer at 503-585-9835.

May 28, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: White Rock Fen, in the Salem BLM District, was featured in *Kalmiopsis* in 2004. The Emerald and Corvallis Chapters are jointly sponsoring a field trip to this unique wetland area. Terry Fennell, a botanist with the Salem BLM, has graciously offered to lead this trip. Corvallis area folks meet at the OSU parking lot SW of the Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis, at 8:30 am. This trip is limited to 12 people total due to the fragile nature of the fen. RSVP John Syring at 541-752-0414 if you plan to attend.

Emerald

May 1, Sunday, 9:30 am– 2:30 pm*

Spring Botany Workshop at Mt. Pisgah Arboretum. See Mt. Pisgah Arboretum events on p. 50.

May 5, Thursday, 10 am – 1 pm*

Field Trip: Delta Ponds. Lauri Mullen of the City of Eugene will give us a tour of a major restoration project at Delta Ponds. Meet at 10 am in the Valley River parking area next to the bike bridge. For further information call Dave Predeek at 541-345-5531.

May 7, Saturday, 8 am*

Field Trip: Kentucky Falls. Dr. Rhoda Love and Dave Predeek will lead a search for western wahoo, *Euonymus occidentalis* in a forested canyon with 3 waterfalls. Round trip hike is 4 miles with 500 feet elevation gain. Bring lunch and dress for the weather. Call Dave at 541-345-5531.

May 23, Monday, 7:30 am

Field Trip: Oak Savannah/Upland Prairie Restoration. See Willamette Valley chapter events for more information or call Lynda Boyer at 503-585-9835. Meet 7:30 am at Campbell Senior Center to carpool from Eugene.

May 23, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Beginning Botany Workshop. Several of our local botany teachers will present an evening of instruction in recognizing common plant families, identifying plants to species using keys to the local flora, and use of the dissecting microscope. Bring Gilkey's *Handbook of Northwestern Plants* if you have it. Room 115, Science Building, Lane Community College, 4000 30th Avenue East, Eugene.

May 28, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: White Rock Fen. See Corvallis events for more information. Meet 8:00 am at South Eugene High School. RSVP Dave at 541-345-5531.

June 2, Thursday, 9 am

Field Trip: McGowan Meadow in the Coburg Hills is at 2000' elevation and is surrounded on 3 sides by old-growth Douglas-fir. In early June it has a colorful flower display including Oregon geranium and Wyethia. A BLM botanist will join us. Meet 9 am at Campbell Senior Center near the Ferry St. Bridge. Call Dave at 541-345-5531.

High Desert

May 17, Tuesday, 6 pm

May 31, Tuesday, 6 pm

Work Party: Pilot Butte State Park—Stop the Alien Invaders! The Butte is a special natural feature in the urban sea

of Bend. This half million-year-old volcano has intact native bunchgrass communities over much of its flanks and springtime wildflowers abound. Unfortunately, in the last 10 years spotted knapweed, toadflax, cheatgrass, sweet-clover, and mullein have begun to replace native plants. In cooperation with the State Parks Division and Pilot Butte Partners, we are pulling weeds to stop this invasion in its early stages. Bring gloves, wear sturdy footwear, and meet at the eastside parking lot at the base of the Butte at 6 pm for an hour of weed pulling! For more information call Stu Garrett at 541-389-6981 eves.

June 4, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: The Island. The Island Research Natural Area is a remnant example of our native grasslands. Much of the local high desert probably looked like this before grazing, farming, and urbanization took over. Unfortunately, even in this barely-grazed area, exotic weeds are a problem. NPSO will assist the BLM in removing weedy medusa-head grass from several small infested areas. This is a unique opportunity to visit the area since the Island RNA is closed to casual hiking. The trail up is steep and requires handholds to climb. We may see rattlesnakes so long pants and boots are encouraged. Meet at main parking lot on the east side of Pilot Butte State Park off of Hwy 20 (Greenwood St.) in Bend. For more info call Stu Garrett at 541-389-6981 eves.

June 9, Thursday, 12:30 pm

Field Trip: Pine Ridge, Crooked River National Grasslands. Pine Ridge is a volcanic ridge near Grays Butte that is in unusually good ecological condition and supports a variety of spring wildflowers. We will visit an interesting livestock/elk enclosure at the base of the butte. It has spectacular views on a clear day. Moderate hiking of 4 miles total with under 1000 ft elevation gain, but the side of the butte is fairly steep. We'll depart from the north end of the main parking lot on the east side of Pilot Butte State Park off of Hwy 20 (Greenwood St.) in Bend at 12:30 pm. (**Note new time!**) Call trip leader Stu Garrett for details: 541-389-6981 eves.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia.

May 4, Wednesday, 7:30 pm*

Meeting: Spring Bloom. This evening we'll do a show-and-tell of the bloom progression. Expect a pronounced acceleration of the bloom, due to our drought. Bring in some common and maybe out of sync flowers. Mike Igo will cover the change in seed collection for those of you wishing that you had collected seed last year. The *Dalles Chronicle* Meeting Room 317, East 3rd Street, The Dalles.

North Coast

For information on the North Coast Chapter, contact Janet Stahl at 503-842-8708 or jjs@oregoncoast.com.

Portland

May 1, Sunday, 8 am*

Field Trip: Angel's Rest. This popular trail located near the west end of the Gorge, offers a wide variety of wildflowers and a breathtaking view from the top. We will see a wide variety of woodland flowers including larkspur. 4.4 miles round trip, 1500 feet elevation gain, unprotected drop-offs at the top, hiking boots a must. Leave at 8 am (trail parking lot will fill up early), Gateway/NE 99th Ave, Park and Ride, SE corner of parking lot, second meeting place at the Angel's Rest trail head at 8:45 am. Take I-84 to Bridal Veil exit 28, follow exit road to stop sign and turn right onto Historic Hwy west, you will see the parking lot to the west of the intersection with the scenic highway. For more info call Angie Moore at 503-292-2093.

May 4, Wednesday, 6 pm*

Field Trip: Walk at Springwater Corridor in Gresham. As part of Native

Plant Appreciation Week, we'll walk and explore native plants in our own backyard. Easy stroll after work, for info call Elena Efoli at 503-492-2655.

May 6, Friday, 1:30 – 4 pm*

Work Party: Berry Botanic Garden.

Join us for a work party in honor of Appreciation Native Plant Week at the site of a local defender of native plants. The Berry Botanic Garden is the home of the Seed Bank for Rare and Endangered Plants of the Pacific Northwest. It is also a 6-acre garden, facing the usual challenge of invasive plant encroachment. Come when you can, we'll finish by 5 pm. Our hosts will provide light refreshments and loads of gratitude. Please RSVP to Elena at 503-492-2655 by April 29 if you can make it. For directions and related questions, call Kris at 503-636-4112.

May 7, Saturday, 8:30 am*

Work Party: No Ivy Day at Bridal Veil Columbia Gorge. We'll work together with Friends of Columbia Gorge from 9 am to 1 pm. Leave at 8:30 am, Gateway/NE 99th Ave, Park and Ride, SE corner of parking lot, or meet at Bridal Veil State Park: take I-84 Eastbound to Bridal Veil Exit 28, follow exit road to stop sign and turn right onto Historic Hwy west, drive 1/2 mile to park entrance on the right.

May 7, Saturday, 9 am*

Work Party: No Ivy Day at the Berry Botanic Garden. This is a national event; we will focus on removing English Ivy from a few spots in the garden. English Ivy is a highly invasive and aggressive plant. Our goal is to minimize its effect on the health of other plants in the garden. Call Robbie Igoe, Gardener, for details at 503-636-4112 x27.

May 8, Sunday, 1 – 3 pm*

Field Trip: Mother's Day Birds and Blooms at Nobel Woods Park, 231st and Baseline, Hillsboro. Sponsored by Metro Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department. This Mother's Day don't just bring flowers to Mom, bring Mom to the flowers! Join METRO naturalist Deb Scrivens on a leisurely stroll at

Noble Woods Park to learn about common wildflowers. Wheelchair accessible and sign language interpretation are available by arrangements. Meet at the shelter. \$3 per person is required in advance; call 503-681-5397 and refer to bar code #8360.

May 12, Thursday, 7:00 pm

Meeting: Pining for Pines! Come join John Syring, NPSO-Corvallis Chapter President and a student of *Pinus* phylogenetics, as John gives a presentation covering several important facets of this remarkable genus. The latter half of the hour will be devoted to hands-on investigation of the pines of Oregon and Northern California. Fireside Room, First United Methodist Church, 1938 SW Jefferson St., Portland, just uphill from the Goose Hollow MAX stop.

May 14, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Rooster Rock. Joint trip with Friends of Columbia Gorge. Join Helen Lyman and Lynn Gibbons on this easy walk (2.5 miles, 250-ft elevation gain) and do a little work pulling garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). Leave at 8:30 am from Gateway/NE 99th Ave, Park and Ride, SE corner of parking lot.

June 5, Sunday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: The Discovery Center, Tom McCall Preserve and more. Meet at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center at 10:00 am and see a native plant restoration project there, with blanket flower, cutleaf penstemon, hairy goldaster, and many others. Then stop at the Tom McCall Preserve to look for mountain hollyhock and check the pond, and the Memaloose Area to check a wetland and see what is blooming. After lunch at the Wildflower Cafe in Mosier, we'll head for Catherine Creek to find harvest brodiaea and meadow larkspur. Take I-84 to first exit for The Dalles, and follow signs to Columbia Gorge Discovery Center. Leave at 8:30 am from Gateway/NE 99th Ave, Park and Ride, SE corner of parking lot. For more info call Barbara Robinson, 541-296-5334.

Siskiyou

May 1, Sunday, 9 am*

Field Trip: Illinois River Valley. We'll see the return of the vegetation the third spring after the disastrous Biscuit fire. Along with many other flowers, we will see the most accessible stand of *Kalmiopsis* and a population of western Sophora, both rare plants that were originally found by and named for one of Oregon's best known pioneer botanists, Lilla Leach. Easy 4-mile hike on a good trail, but the slope from the trail to the Illinois River is high and precipitous. The road in is long and very rough and recommended for high clearance vehicles only. Meet on right (south) side of Selma Market parking lot in Selma, 20 miles south of Grants Pass on Hwy 199. Leader: Don Heinze, 541-955-7247. Recommended prior reading: Don Begnoche, *Siskiyou Sundays*, pp. 91-100 and Kirkpatrick, Holzwarth, and Mullins, *The Botanist and Her Muleskinner*, pp. 63-103.

May 1, Sunday, 9:45 am*

Field Trip: Lower Table Rocks. The Nature Conservancy and Siskiyou Chapter are co-sponsoring a wildflower and natural history hike at Lower Table Rocks north of Medford. Meet at the trailhead at 9:45 am. For more information, contact Molly Sullivan (TNC) at 541-770-7933.

May 2, Monday, 9 am*

Work Party: Starthistle Pull at Jacksonville Cemetery. Help pull Starthistle at a recent *Fritillaria gentneri* bulb outplanting site. Afterwards, we will take a walk through the Jacksonville woodlands and see more *Fritillaria gentneri* and other spring wildflowers. Meet at Britt parking lot below the road into the Cemetery at 9 am. Gloves will be provided. For more info contact Armand Rebisckhe at 541-482-2141 or funky1@charter.net.

May 7, Saturday, 9 am*

Field Trip: Rough and Ready Creek Trail to Mud Springs (Illinois Valley). Rough and Ready has a large variety of serpentine plants, some

endemic to the area. The trail goes through Jeffrey pine woodland, rock outcrops, a *Darlingtonia* fen, and the Rough and Ready Creek flood plain. A portion of the area was burned by the Biscuit Fire three years ago. It will be interesting to discover how this fire-adapted ecosystem is recovering. The hike is an easy 2-3 miles but does have several narrow spots with a steep incline down to Rough & Ready Creek. Meet at Illinois Valley Visitor Center, Cave Junction, half a block from Hwy 199 on Hwy 46. Leaders: Linda Mazzu, 541-618-2277, and Anita Seda.

May 14, Saturday, 9 am –5 pm

Field Trip: Klamath Plateau (along Hwy 66, 30 miles east of Ashland). An all-day car trip with stops to see a thorny ceanothus, a scabland with pygmy mimulus, a wet meadow with crab apple (!) and hawthorn along the edge, and, if time permits, an old growth forest with the rare green-flowered ginger. Bring rubber boots for the wet meadow, lunch and water. Short, easy hikes. Round trip driving distance: 70 miles. Meet behind Pizza Hut on Ashland St, just west of the Ashland BiMart/Shop 'n Kart parking lot, about 1/4 mile west of I-5, exit 14. Leaders: Julian and Connie Battaile, 541-488-0368.

May 15, Sunday, 9 am

Workshop: Wildland Grasses, Fish Hatchery Park, Grants Pass. Learn to key and identify common grasses of southwest Oregon. Find out the ecology, natural history, and historical facts about grasses. Bring pencil, paper, clipboard, hand lens, and digging tool. Reservations recommended, but no one will be turned away. Easy 1-mile hike. Meet 9 am on left (east) side of Fred Meyer parking lot on the Parkway in Grants Pass; alternate meeting place: 9:45 am, north side parking lot of Fish Hatchery Park. Leader: Don Heinze, 541-955-7247.

May 19, Thursday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Nature as Supermarket, Hardware Store, Pharmacy and Church—Sustainable Ways The

Indigenous People of the Klamath-Siskiyou Use and Manage Native Plants. Speakers: Frank Lake (Karuk, Seneca, Cherokee, Mexican) and LaVerne Glaze (Karuk/Yurok), Karuk Indigenous Basket Weavers. Frank and LaVerne will discuss Native American land management practices associated with the use of native plants for foods, materials, and medicines, using several different local forest habitats as case studies. Traditional Ecological Knowledge and traditional Karuk cultural uses of fire will be featured. The Siskiyou Chapter's final spring/summer field trip list will be available. Room 171 of the SOU Science Building, Ashland. For more information, contact Cynthia Maclaren, 541-482-0899.

May 21-22, Saturday-Sunday

Overnight Field Trip: Lava Beds National Monument Botany Blitz (California). SOU graduate student Sean Smith is conducting a park-wide floristic inventory, which will form the basis for a park floristic manual and his master's thesis. Dr. Steve Jessup (SOU), Sean Smith, and the National Park Service invite NPSO and CNPS members to assist them on the project. Participants will be able to camp and set up plant identification stations in and around the Monument's new research station and use the indoor facilities to key plants deep into the night. Park entry and camping fees will be waived for participants. If you are interested, please contact Sean Smith at smithse@sou.edu, 541-488-7998 (home) or 541-301-3720 (cell) for details on when and where to meet or to reserve a camping spot.

June 4, Saturday, 9:00 am

Field Trip: Grizzly Peak (Dead Indian Memorial Rd, east of Ashland). Early spring flowers—Klamath Fawn Lily, Yellow Bells, small Lewisias, *Lomatiums*. Easy-to-moderate 5-mile round-trip hike, 600-ft elevation gain (5300-5900 ft). Meet behind Pizza Hut on Ashland St, just west of the Ashland BiMart/Shop 'n Kart parking lot, about 1/4 mile west of I-5, exit 14. Leader: Jim Duncan, 541-482-7629

Umpqua Valley

May 12, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Wildflowers and Geology of the Steens Mountains. Susan Starr will give a slide presentation about the wildflowers and touch on some geology of the Steens Mountains. Susan received her BA in art from California State University at Long Beach and worked in graphic arts for 25 years. She returned to school to get her teaching certificate in science and while working on her MS degree, took a series of classes through a consortium at the Malheur Field Station that included photography and several field botany classes. While there, she became interested in the wildflowers of the Steens and did extensive wildflower photography. Mercy Education Bldg., 2459 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg. For more info call Ron Hatt at 541-863-7024.

May 14, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Popcorn Flower Preserve to see *Limnanthes douglasii*, *Brodiaea elegans* and *Plagiobothrys hirtus*. Meet at the Douglas County Courthouse rear parking lot, 1036 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg. For more information call Ron at 541-863-7024.

May 21, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Callahan Meadows to see *Calochortus umpquaensis* and *Lupinus sulphureus* ssp. *kincaidii*. Meet at the Douglas County Courthouse rear parking lot, 1036 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg. For those living south of Roseburg, meet at the TriCity McDonalds, exit 103 at 9 am. For more information call Ron at 541-863-7024.

May 28, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: King Mountain to see *Lupinus lepidus*, *Fritillaria glauca*, *Fritillaria recurva* and *Anemone oregana*. Meet at 8:30 am at the Douglas County Courthouse rear parking lot, 1036 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg. For those living south of Roseburg, meet at the TriCity McDonalds, exit 103 at 9:00 am. For more information call Ron at 541-863-7024.

Willamette Valley

May 7, Saturday, 7:30 am – 6 pm*

Field Trip: Hood River Mountain Meadows. We will view wildflower-laden meadows overlooking Hood River. There is a 500-foot elevation gain over the first mile to get to the meadow. Conditions may be muddy and windy. For more info or to register, call John Savage at 503-399-8615.

May 7 – 8, Saturday – Sunday, 9 am – 4 pm*

Event: Plant Sale. The Marion County Master Gardeners will hold their annual plant sale at 3180 Center St. NE in Salem. They will be selling native plants, trees, herbs, grasses, annuals and perennials as well as new and used tools, yard art and hanging baskets. For more information, call 503-373-3770.

May 14, Saturday, 10 am – 2 pm

Field Trip: Baskett Slough Wildlife Refuge. We'll view wildflowers at Baskett Slough near Salem. For more information or to register, call John Savage at 503-399-8615.

May 23, Monday, 9 am – 1 pm

Field Trip: Oak Savanna/Upland Prairie Restoration. This private land restoration, in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, began three years ago and includes more than 75 native plant species introduced to over 40 acres of remnant prairie and agricultural field just east of Salem. It is also a permitted reintroduction site for six threatened and endangered species. We'll also visit an adjacent 9 acres of native seed production. The trip, led by the project coordinator Lynda Boyer, will be attended by many restoration professionals and native garden enthusiasts. Directions: From I-5 south or north, take Highway 22 East (Exit 253). Take a right at Joseph Street (Exit 5 off Highway 22). Go about 3/4 mile to a farm gate on the right (flagged). The gate is just past 64th and there are Alaskan Cedars lining the farm fence and nursery stock just behind (if you come to Aumsville Highway, you have gone too far). Go through the gate and

down the road. Take a left at the old-growth oak and park behind the building (either side). For more info call Lynda at Heritage Seedlings Inc, 503-585-9835.

May 29-31, Saturday – Monday, 8 am daily

Field Trip: Siskiyou/Cave Junction. Plant expert Wilbur Bluhm will lead his annual Memorial Day weekend field trip to sites near the Siskiyou. Each trip is independent of those of the other days, enabling a person to participate in field trips for one, two, or all three days. For more details, call Wilbur Bluhm at 503-393-2934.

June 4, Saturday, 7:30 am

Field Trip: Dog Mountain. We will view the wildflowers on Dog Mountain on the Washington side of the Columbia Gorge. This is a difficult hike, but we will go slowly. Back by 6:00 pm. For more information or to register, call John Savage at 503-399-8615.

William Cusick

For information on the William Cusick Chapter call Frazier Nichol at 541-963-7870.

Bulletin Mailing Coordinator Needed

Our present mailing coordinator, Mike Hartman, has served well in this position ever since the *Bulletin* printing moved to Eugene in 2000. Mike wears many other volunteer hats for NPSO including webmaster so we need to find a volunteer to take over this position. We are looking for someone who lives in the Eugene-Springfield area and is willing to put in one day a month (during the next-to-last week of each month) organizing the mailing of the *Bulletin*. To find out more information about the position contact Mike Hartman at 541-485-5202 or webmaster@NPSO.org.

OTHER EVENTS

24th Annual Shady Cove Wildflower Show

May 7 - 8, Saturday-Sunday, 10 - 4 pm
Shady Cove School Multipurpose Bldg., Cleveland St. Shady Cove

Celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week (May 1-8) at the annual Shady Cove/Trail Wildflower Show just 20 miles north of Medford. Enjoy 200 live wildflower specimens artfully displayed, without the hike and poison oak. All species are identified by common and botanical names and a botanist will be available to answer questions. Also a plant sale, door prizes and a raffle along with a boutique and refreshments. Wheelchair access. Admission by donation. Proceeds go to Jackson County Fire District #4 to purchase a "Jaws of Life" 324UL Spreader. Sponsored by the Wildflower Association of Shady Cove-Trail. For more information contact Margaret Meierhenry at 541-826-6649 or msmeier@jeffnet.org.

Mount Pisgah Arboretum Events

34901 Frank Parrish Rd. (off of Seavey Loop Rd.), Eugene. For more information or to register call 541-747-1504.

Field Botany Workshop
May 1, Sunday, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

In observation of Native Plant Appreciation Week, Dr. Rhoda Love, retired LCC botany professor, will teach identification of plants and plant families. Participants should bring a hand lens and *Handbook of Northwestern Plants* by Gilkey & Dennis. Co-sponsored by NPSO (\$30 (\$25 MPA and NPSO members.) Pre-registration required.

Wildflower Festival and Plant Sale
May 15, Sunday, 10am – 4pm

Enjoy a display of wildflowers and educational exhibits prepared by Festival co-presenters, the Emerald Chapter of NPSO. Other activities include a huge plant sale, children's activities, music, guided walks, and food and craft vendors. Suggested donation: \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Members free.

Western American Alpines Slide Show

May 3, Tuesday, 7 pm
EWEB Training Room, Eugene

Graham Nicholls, renowned British nurseryman, plant hunter and author of *Alpine Plants of North America*, will talk about how to grow Western alpine plants at the May meeting of the Emerald Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society. Plants for sale, refreshments after the show. For more info call Holly Helton at 541-345-9103.

Graham will also speak to the Columbia-Willamette chapter of NARGS, Wednesday, May 4, 7:30 pm, Hoyt Arboretum Visitor Center, Portland. For more info contact Tom Bland at blandt50@hotmail.com.

Umpqua Basin Watershed Council Field Trip

May 2, Saturday, 8 am – 2 pm

The field trip for the public is sponsored by the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council to feature the results of its stream restoration projects in the Myrtle Creek watershed. Among other developments, UBWC projects on this field trip emphasize riparian plantings to help protect stream habitats for fish and wildlife. Assemble at the City of Myrtle Creek Park. Because of limited parking/turn around space during the field trip, participants are asked to pre-register to ride in a van driven by UBWC volunteers. To pre-register, call UBWC at 541-673-5756 by May 13.

Myrtle Creek Watershed Study Tour

May 21, Saturday, 8 am – 2 pm

See the results of stream restoration projects in the Myrtle Creek watershed. Assemble at Myrtle Creek city park for refreshments, orientation and van assignment. Projects completed by the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council and its public and private partners feature in-stream structures and riparian plantings that brought back the fish! By May 13, please pre-register by contacting UBWC coordinator Bob Kinyon at 541-673-5756 or bob@ubwc.org.

Audubon Society of Portland's Native Plant Sale

May 14 – 15, Saturday – Sunday
10 am – 4 pm
5151 NW Cornell Road, Portland

The plant sale features over 100 native species. The event is under cover in case of rain. Volunteers and staff experienced with native plants will be on hand to answer gardening questions. Proceeds benefit our Nature Sanctuaries. For more information contact Mitch Luckett at 503-292-6855 x 106 or Ann Littlewood at 503-287-8782 or go to www.audubonportland.org.

Fort Columbia State Park Hike

May 14, Saturday, 9 am – 12 pm

At peak bloom, this is the most spectacular floriferous site in this region of Southwest Washington. Hike starts at upper parking area near hostel at 9 am. A plant list for this site is available at www.reachone.com/columbiacoast-plants. Fee parking area (\$5.00 per day). Bring water, lunch for after hike. Contact Kathleen Sayce 360-665-5292 or Nancy Eid 503-861-1837.

Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center Events

Medicinal Plants of the Ancient Forest May 21-22, Saturday and Sunday

We'll hike and identify plants, focusing on their medicinal, food, and ecology value, discuss the basics of herbal actions on the body, learn respectful wildcrafting methods, make herbal preparations, and talk about herbs for common imbalances.

Moss, Lichens, and Liverworts June 4 - 5, Saturday and Sunday

Join forest ecologist John Vilella and Olympic National Park moss and lichen expert Martin Hutten as they lead us on a journey through the non-vascular plant kingdoms of the Opal Creek Wilderness.

\$110 price for each workshop includes instruction, workshop materials, accommodations, meals, and luggage shuttle to Jawbone Flats. Meet at the Opal Creek trailhead at 10 am, located one hour east of Salem. For more information and reservations, call 503-892-2782 or go to www.opalcreek.org.

Berry Botanic Garden Events

Portland's Berry Botanic Garden has a number of native plant-oriented events. To register or to get more information on these and other events at the garden call Kris at 503-636-4112x22 or visit their website at <http://www.berrybot.org>.

Wondrous Waterfall Hike May 19, Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm

Join us on a gentle hike for a look at four beautiful Columbia Gorge waterfalls. Of course we'll take plenty of time to enjoy the wildflowers in all of their May splendor. This easy hike is about 4.5 miles and 500 feet elevation. Donations welcome.

Native Plant Garden Field Trip May 20, Friday, 9 am - 1 pm

Visit 3 gardens which have successfully blended native plants into a home landscape. See how things grow and where they do best, pick up design ideas and discover some new plants. \$25.

West Eugene Wetlands Month

For more information about the many other American Wetlands Month events or to register call Holly McRae at 683-6494 or visit www.wewetlands.org.

Wild Wetland Walk May 7, Saturday, 10 am - 2 pm

Join Bruce Newhouse and Peg Boulay for a wild wetland walk at the Willow Creek Natural Area during the 1st annual Native Plant Appreciation Week in search of blooming wildflowers and trees, butterflies, and other ecological wonders. Participants should wear rubber boots or shoes that can get wet and muddy. Space is limited to 15 people.

Wetlands Nature Photography May 28, Saturday, 12 - 4 pm, and June 2, Thursday, 7 - 9 pm

Learn from local photographer David Stone the principles of nature photography and see examples in class, practice techniques in the field and share your results in a follow-up session back in the classroom. Film and digital cameras welcome. Space is limited to 15 participants.

Columbia Hills Interpretive Day

May 14th, Saturday, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm Crawford House on Dalles Mtn. Road (off Hwy 14)

This will be a fun educational day at the Columbia Hills Natural Area Preserve and State Park, located at the east end of the Columbia River Gorge just east and across the river from The Dalles. Columbia Hills State Park is the new name of the combined Horsethief Lake & Dalles Mt. Ranch State Parks. There will be field trips and presentations for the whole family. Field trips will cover geology, native plants, wildlife, and cultural history. Presentations will be given on the history of the ranch, ice-age floods, Lewis & Clark and environment-based education at Dalles Mt. Ranch. There will also be information/education booths all day and an opportunity to learn about old farm equipment. For more information contact Kristina Proszek at kristina.proszek@wadnr.gov or 509-925-0940, SE Region of Dept. of Natural Resources.

Friends of the Oregon Flora Project



www.oregonflora.org

The Oregon Plant Atlas is online now, and accessible through our website at www.oregonflora.org. It can be a useful companion to your floras and field guides this wildflower season. We welcome your comments on the Atlas, new species lists, and contributions to help keep this resource growing.

Friends of the Oregon Flora Project
P.O. Box 402
Corvallis, OR 97339-0402

Deserts Alive!

by Tobias Policha

Irrigating the early direct-sown greens in my garden and worrying about the lack of snow pack in the Cascades, the news of torrential rain and flooding in southern California filled me with expectation for my upcoming journey to the deserts of San Diego County. After waiting all winter for the rains to come to the Pacific Northwest, I had the opportunity to explore another ecosystem during the first stormy week of spring. An ecosystem that, in sharp contrast to our own, received several times its usual rainfall this winter. Nowhere else is it so clear that water means life, as in the desert. And this year the desert was alive!

Having never botanized in the deserts of Southern California I felt almost spoiled to have my first introduction come during this unusual year of green growth and brilliant color explosion. Everywhere I turned, a soaring vista or intricate and beautiful detail caught and held my eye: hills covered with the golden flowers of the Brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), canyon floors on fire with the scarlet, penstemon-like flowers of the unrelated Chuparosa (*Justicia californica*, Acanthaceae), and a tiny, annual, magenta Monkeyflower (*Mimulus* sp.) underfoot.

The surplus water caused such lush growth, that most of the plants consistently exceeded the upper ranges of the measurements given in the key. For this reason, despite the prolific bloom, it would not have been a good year to collect specimens, as any collection would not accurately represent the species.

In all of its glory, the blooming desert is well protected. I learned to watch my step after running into half-a-dozen Chollas (*Opuntia* spp.) the first morning. These cylindrical-stemmed genus-mates of the Prickly Pear bristle with barbed spines that will penetrate even the sturdiest work-pants, and required the tweezers from my botany kit to remove.

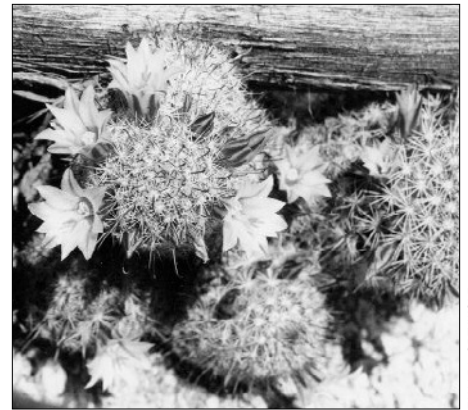
One delicate allium-like plant that I found on a rocky outcrop served as a

reminder that taxonomists have senses of humor. The plant keyed out as the other side of the couplet from *Allium* and was called *Muilla*. *Muilla* is *Allium* spelled backwards and was so named because of their superficial resemblance. Also amusing was that this desert species was given the specific epithet *maritima*—of the sea.

A midnight plant walk in the rain revealed the intense aroma of the resins in many of these desert plants. After a hot day, the night rain released the volatile fragrance of the Creosote Bush (*Larrea tridentata*), filling the canyon with its sweetly acrid odor.

Passing through forests of the many-branched Ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*) covered with bright-red, tubular flowers buzzing with hummingbirds was a lesson in adaptive morphology. The leaves put out by the new growth of the Ocotillo actually form spines that protect the plant later in their development. As the leaves are shed, the petiole and mid-rib remain persistent, hardening into a fearsome protrusion. The secondary leaves, put on the next year, are then clustered into the axils of the spines. Often this metamorphosis can be observed on a single branch, with new primary leaves unfurling at the tips, the leaf blades becoming deciduous in the middle, and axillary secondary leaves visible on older wood.

To this Northwest student of botany, the Sonoran ecoregion represented not only new and different species, but also genera and families not as well represented in our area. Whether the common shrubs: *Larrea* (Zygophyllaceae), *Fouquieria* (Fouquieriaceae), and *Justicia* (Acanthaceae), or the several genera of the Cactaceae with their spiraling, undifferentiated perianth parts, my understanding of diversity grew upon every new introduction. The Bignoniaceae, Capparaceae, Ephedraceae, Saururaceae, and the Simmondsiaceae all had new characteristics to become acquainted with. Not only did I meet the



TANARA GREYWOLF

Mammillaria sp.

Bush Monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*), but also a whole genus of bush penstemons that I had never heard of, the Keckelias.

At the same time, I was equally struck by what was familiar. *Delphinium*, *Lupinus*, *Mimulus*, *Phacelia*, and others represented familiar genera. A few plants I could actually recognize to species, such as the east Cascades species *Amsinckia tessellata*. With the help of a good key, I was soon quite comfortable in this foreign landscape.

Of all the springs to plan a trip to the desert, this was certainly a special one. In these times of climatic uncertainty, it was refreshing to see such a vibrant and beautiful abnormality. Yet, every spring, all of the “dead” branches of hot-summer-past come back to life. Any spring, the desert alive is an experience not to miss!

References

Baldwin et al. *The Jepson Desert Manual: Vascular Plants of Southeastern California*. University of California Press, Berkeley, Ca. 2002.

Tobias Policha is a gardener, student, and instructional aide in the botany program at Lane Community College. He was a participant in the 2005 session of the Columbines School of Botanical Studies' "California Botanical Adventure." CSBS can be reached at their website: www.teleport.com/~howieb

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NPSO Membership Directory lists names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail address of NPSO members (April 2005). Available from Jan Dobak, 2921 NE 25th Avenue, Portland, OR 97212-3460. **\$3 postpaid.**

The "Atlas of Oregon Carex" was NPSO's first Occasional Paper. The Atlas has 128 location maps, one for each Carex taxon in the state of Oregon. Also included are a synonymy, fun facts

about sedges, a history of the project, and Oregon geography maps. **Price: \$5.**

"Louis F. Henderson (1853-1942): The Grand Old Man of Northwest Botany" by Rhoda M. Love. NPSO's second Occasional Paper is the only existing publication with detailed coverage of the long and fascinating life of this John Muir-like western character. Included: 56 pictures, 133 notes, chronology, list of plants named for Henderson. Fourth printing, February, 2004. **Price \$10.00.**

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