



Bulletin

of the

Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 39, No. 5

MAY 2006

2006 ANNUAL MEETING

June 9 – 11 in McMinnville

Don't miss it!

Look for registration form and other information in March *Bulletin* or online at www.npsoregon.org

In This Issue

No Jean Davis Memorial Scholarship This Year44

Chapter Calendar45

Other Events49

NPSO Board Candidates50

Book Review51

Remembering John Reynolds.....52

NPSO Contacts.....53

New Venue for Mt. Pisgah Wildflower Festival.....54

Day Hikes for Spring Bloom in the Owyhee Desert

by Holly Nielsen

Holly received an NPSO Field Research Grant last year to conduct a plant survey of unusual geographical/botanical areas in southeast Oregon. Holly has been working on botanical projects in eastern Oregon for about eight years. Here, she shares some of the botanical treats awaiting your discovery.

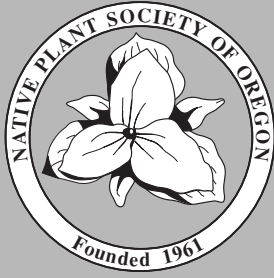
Winter is slow to give up its grip on the southeastern corner of Oregon. But even in early March the sun is noticeably warming, the snowdrops are blooming on the south side of our house, and the first flocks of migratory cranes and snow geese are making their appearance here in the Harney Basin. Spring is beginning to make capricious appearances.

With these advents, I am anticipating our ephemeral season of desert bloom. The abundant precipitation this winter will likely bring on another eye-popping year of audacious color to the usually muted landscape. I would like to describe some day hikes that will take one to incredible and unique desert landscapes in one of the most remote areas in the lower 48 states. To get to these hikes it is necessary to have a high clearance vehicle, preferably four-wheel drive, and a good map. Also, the terrain can be rough, so bring plenty of water and sturdy hiking boots. These hikes are on BLM land managed by the Vale District Office.

The first hike I will describe takes place north of Rome, Oregon in an area called Little Chalk Basin. The easiest way to get there is to turn north off of Hwy 95 five miles west of Rome onto a good gravel road. This gravel road will continue north and will soon

cross the Crooked Creek Ranch. Continue through the ranch (it is a public access road) to the fork in the road where you will see a metal gate on the right fork. Go through the gate (being sure to close it behind you) and continue onto BLM land. Now, stay *straight* on this slow and deteriorating gravel/dirt road paralleling the Owyhee River for approximately 23+ miles until you arrive at a sharp T-junction. At this junction, taking a right will lead you down into Chalk Basin, a huge botanical and geological wonderland worth days of exploring. Take a peek over the edge into the Basin from the top of this junction. However, for the day hike I will describe, turn around and go back about one mile to a small, nondescript drainage with an old water trough in it at the junction of the road. Park here. Continue on foot down the drainage. Soon it plunges into an open basin of steep chalk hills and hoodoo formations that call for exploring. In a few miles it joins the Owyhee River. This area is called Little Chalk Basin and the scenery and wildflowers are unprecedented. Walk carefully; there is a high incidence of special status plant species growing on these loose chinks. At least 20 special status plants find their home in the vicinity of these distinctive

continued on page 48



Native Plant Society of Oregon

World Wide Web

<http://www.NPSOregon.org>

E-mail Discussion List

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or correspond directly with Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside of the back page.

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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.

May 1-8 is Native Plant Appreciation Week!

May 1-8, 2006 is NPSO's second annual Native Plant Appreciation Week (NPAW). The list of planned events includes wildflower shows, hikes, native plant sales and more! Visit our 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 see 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. For more information contact Matt Blakeley-Smith at mattbs@peak.org or 541-752-1091. Happy botanizing!

No Jean Davis Scholarship This Year

by Thomas Jenkins, Scholarship Committee Chair

The Willamette Valley Chapter will not be offering any scholarship awards for this coming school year. After discussions with the State Board it was decided that the Chapter would apply for separate 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation status. The Scholarship Committee thought it best to allow the principal to build while this process unfolds.

The Willamette Valley Chapter now manages two scholarships, due to a generous bequest following the death last year of a beloved founding Chapter member. The Augusta Rockafellar Memorial Scholarship's rules and award amount will be virtually the same as the existing Jean Davis Memorial Scholarship, as per Augusta's final wishes.

My apologies to any and all students who may have been anticipating a *Bulletin* announcement of the scholarship award offer. Please look for it next year, when both scholarships will be offered.



The balsamroots (Balsamorhiza deltoidea) as well as the view are outstanding at Horse Rock Ridge RNA in May. For a chance to visit this special place see the Corvallis chapter's field trip on the next page. What a great way to celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week!

TANYA HARVEY

State

June 9 – 11, Friday – Sunday

Annual Meeting: The Willamette Valley and Cheahmill chapters will jointly host the Annual Meeting at Linfield College in McMinnville. Information and registration materials were included in the March *Bulletin* and can also be found on the NPSO website, www.NPSOregon.org.

Blue Mountain

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

Cheahmill

www.oregon-nativeplants.com

May 6, Saturday, 10 am – 3 pm*

Wildflower Show & Native Plant Sale. Cheahmill Chapter celebrates Oregon's Native Plant Appreciation Week with Cheahmill's Annual Wildflower Show & Native Plant Sale. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 N. Adams Street. Identified and 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 variety of reasonably-priced native annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees will be included in the plant sale inventory. For info contact Susan Williams at helgesusan@comcast.net.

May 25, Thursday, 7 pm

Work Meeting: Join us for light refreshments and conversation. Members will do tasks associated with our co-sponsorship responsibilities for the upcoming annual NPSO meeting in June. We will also be discussing ideas and goals for Cheahmill Chapter's

*Special Native Plant Appreciation Week Event

06/07 year. The board needs your assistance and your input. Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library. For info contact Susan Williams at helgesusan@comcast.net.

Corvallis

May 6, Saturday, 10 am*

Field Trip: Horse Rock Ridge Research Natural Area. Come celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week the

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.

right way! Ann Willyard will be leading this amazing hike at one of the most diverse locations anywhere within an hour drive of Corvallis. We will see many beautiful and rare plants including a very showy form of *Erigeron compositus*, *Dodecatheon pulchellum*, *Erythronium oregonum* and *Orobancha uniflora*. 3–4-mile hike on very uneven and rocky terrain. Wear sturdy boots and bring lunch and water. Expect to return around 4 pm. Due to the sensitive nature of the area, participants will be limited to 10. Meet at the OSU parking lot SW of the Beanery, 26th and Monroe, Corvallis, at 9:50 am. For more information and to register, contact John Syring at 541-752-0414.

May 7, Sunday, 11 am – 5 pm*

Spring Garden Sale and Native Plant Appreciation Celebration. Come celebrate Native Plant Appreciation week by purchasing a native or two for your own yard! The Corvallis Chapter will have a booth at the spring garden sale, along with numerous other garden supply and garden craft vendors. Purchase some really inexpensive natives to start your own native garden. We are also looking for volunteers to help staff our booth. The garden sale is held in front of the Corvallis Art Center, across from the Public Library. Cost is free. For more information contact John Syring at 541-752-0414.

May 8, Monday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: A Brief Photo Essay of Hawaiian Endemic Flowering Plant Genera. Dr. Gerald Carr, formerly a professor of plant systematics at the University of Hawaii, will share his many years of Hawaiian plant research. Dr. Carr is now a resident of Oregon and will be taking an active role in the Oregon Flora Project. This is a talk not to be missed, and will be the final talk before we start again in October. Avery House, Avery Park, Corvallis. For more information contact John Syring at 541-752-0414.

Emerald

May 8, Monday, 4:30 pm*

Field Trip: Walk the Wild Side of Mt. Pisgah. Join us for an early evening eco-walk to observe wildflowers, wildlife and the end of day on Mt. Pisgah. Meet at northeast corner, lower parking lot of Lane Community College at 4:30 pm to carpool to SE entrance to Howard Buford Recreation Area off Ridgeway Rd. Or meet us at the SE entrance by 5 pm. (To get there from Eugene, when entering Pleasant Hill on Hwy 58 turn left/north on Ridgeway Road for 1.5 miles.) **Lane County Parks parking permit required**—see their website. Join us in this observation of Native Plant Appreciation Week. Leader: Bruce Newhouse, 541-343-2364.

May 20, Saturday, 9 am

Help Needed: Wildflower Collection. The Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Wildflower Festival will be held Sunday, May 21. Please join Emerald Chapter Saturday in collecting flowers for the show. The flowers will be displayed in the new White Oak Pavilion to help others learn about and appreciate the wonder, diversity and beauty of plant life in our area. For more information call David at 541-746-9478.

Oregon Flora Project Challenge!

Emerald Chapter will match all donations to the Oregon Flora Project up to \$1,200. Contribute now and double your donation! Send your check to: Oregon Flora Project, PO Box 402, Corvallis, OR 97339-0402. Write "Emerald Challenge" on the subject line to double your contribution.

High Desert

For information on the High Desert Chapter contact Berta Youtie at 541-447-8166.

Klamath Basin

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

Mid-Columbia

May 11, Thursday, 7:30pm.

Meeting: Columbia Gorge Scenic Area. Chapter member Judy Davis will present a program on the Scenic area, celebrating its 20-year anniversary this year. Judy is the Wasco County representative on the Columbia Gorge Scenic Area Commission. Please note the new meeting date and new meeting place at the Commodore Hotel, 312 Court Street, The Dalles.

North Coast

Wanted, new members for our group, located in Tillamook County. Trips subject to suggestions. Please phone Janet Stahl 503-842-8708.

Portland

May 11, Thursday, 7pm

Meeting: Rare and Endemic Plants of the Northwest! Come join Phyllis Gustafson, wildflower enthusiast extraordinaire and co-author (with Mark Turner) of the new publication *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*, in a riveting slide show of some rare and endemic plants of the PNW region including the Olympic Mountains, Steens Mountain, the Klamath/Siskiyou Mountains, and the Columbia Plateau. We'll see a selection of these rare beauties, including *Epilobium siskiyouense* (Siskiyou willowherb) and a few other plants that didn't make it into her book. Room #202, First United Methodist Church, 1938 SW Jefferson St., Portland. Located just uphill from the Goose Hollow MAX stop.

May 28, Sunday, 9 am

Field Trip: Tualatin Hills Nature Park. Join trip leader Susan Nelson for a close hand look at a habitat mosaic in our own back yard. We will pass through prairie, woods, and wetland habitats to see three-leafed anemone, corn lily, calypso orchid, western trumpet honeysuckle, and sessile and western trillium on a 3.5-mile flat trail. Bring binoculars, water, and a lunch.

We will meet at the Merlo/ SW 158th light rail station and leave promptly at 9 am. If you need to drive, park at the Elmonica/ SW 17th light rail station as there is no parking at Merlo. Take MAX one stop in the direction of Portland to reach Merlo. Call Susan Nelson at 503-284-1455 for details.

June 5, Monday, 9 am to 4 pm

Field Trip: Angel's Rest. Enjoy a rare weekday wildflower-filled walk to a stunning viewpoint. The hike is about 5.5 miles round trip with 1500 feet of elevation gain. We should see Oregon iris (*Iris tenax*), Columbia lily (*Lilium columbianum*), and maybe Western corydalis (*Corydalis scouleri*), plus lots of others. Contact leader Don Jacobson for car pool location, 503-235-6234, donj@dslnorthwest.net.

Siskiyou

May 6, Saturday, 9 am*

Field Trip: Star Flat (Illinois Valley). We will see unique spring-blooming serpentine plants such as California pitcher plant, California lady's slipper, and stream orchid, along with many other more common but beautiful flowers like western azalea, violets, balsamroots, fairy slippers in an intriguing serpentine fen. Easy 2–3-mile hike. Meet 9 am on right (south) side of Selma Market parking lot in Selma, 20 mi south of Grants Pass on Hwy 199. Leader: Don Heinze, 541-955-7247.

Native Plant Brochure & Seeds

Brochures describing features and benefits of native plants with small packet of native wildflower seeds available to the public at the Northwest Nature Shop (Ashland) and various local nurseries. For more information or to request brochures, contact Armand Rebeschke at 541-482-2141.

May 13, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Mud Springs Trail (Illinois Valley). The Mud Springs trail 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 it 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: Armand Rebeschke, 541-618-2269, and Anita Seda, 541-301-2561.

May 18, Thursday, 7:30 pm

Meeting: Rare and Endemic Plants of the Pacific Northwest. Phyllis Gustafson, co-author of *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*, will offer us a glimpse of the rare and endemic plants found only in the Pacific Northwest. We'll explore the unique habitats of the Klamath/Siskiyou Mountains, Olympic Mountains, Steens Mountains, and the Columbia River Plateau to appreciate how each region sustains its own complex assemblage of endemics. Siskiyou willowherb (*Epilobium siskiyouense*) will be just one of the rare beauties we will have the opportunity to admire. Room 171 of the SOU Science Building, Ashland. Free and open to the public. For more info, contact Celeste Coulter, 503-780-6360.

May 20, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Limpy Creek Botanical Area (near Grants Pass). Visit wet and dry serpentine habitats and a riparian area in this botanical hot spot. Always lots to see here. Easy 1–2-mile walk. Meet 9 am at US Forest Service Bldg, 200 NE Greenfield Rd, Grants Pass,

just north of Exit 58 off I-5, east side of freeway. Leader: Alex Maksymowicz, 541-482-1964

May 27, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Low Divide Road to N. Fork Smith River (Coast). We will look at the serpentine plant associations along Low Divide Road, just south of the Oregon-California border. Mostly a driving trip. Meet 9 am in the town of Smith River on the east side of Hwy 101 at the beginning of Low Divide (Rowdy Creek) Rd. Leaders: Veva Stansell, 541-247-7153, and Norm Jensen, 541-951-4420 or normjensen@gmail.com.

June 3, Saturday, 9 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 Oil Stop on Ashland St, just west of the Ashland BiMart/Shop 'n Kart parking lot, about 1/4 mi west of I-5, exit 14. Leader: Jim Duncan, 541-482-7629.

Umpqua Valley

May 6, Saturday, 7 am*

Field Trip: Star Flat (Illinois Valley). Join Siskiyou Chapter on an exciting field trip to see unique spring blooming serpentine plants such as California pitcher-plant, California lady's slipper and stream orchid, along with many other beautiful flowers like western azalea, violets, balsamroots, fairy

slippers in an intriguing serpentine fen. Easy 2–3-mile hike. Meet at northeast corner of Douglas Courthouse parking lot to carpool from Roseburg area. Alternate meeting area for carpooling Riddle exit McDonalds 7:30 am or meet at 9 am on right (south) side of Selma Market parking lot in Selma, 20 mi. south of Grants Pass on Hwy 199.

May 11, Thursday, 7 pm

Meeting: Whitebark Pine. Dr. Frank Lang, Professor Emeritus of Biology at Southern Oregon University, will present a talk about whitebark pine which has a restricted distribution in Southern Oregon including the Crater Lake area and Mt. Ashland. Whitebark pine survives at high elevations too harsh for other trees and is considered a keystone species in the timberline community. Currently the whitebark pine community is under attack by a non-native fungus, the white pine blister rust (*Cronartium ribicola*). Dr. Lang is also a regular contributor to Nature Notes for Jefferson Public Radio. Mercy Community Education Center, 2459 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg. For more info call Sam Friedman, 541-673-0589.

May 13, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Limpy Rock. Sam Friedman, FWS Botanist will lead a short steep hike to the Limpy Rock/Panther Leap area to explore the burned areas at Limpy Rock to evaluate Umpqua kalmiopsis. We will also visit a small population of clustered lady slipper along the way. It will be interesting to see how this area is recovering from previous fire events and a major burn in 2002. Short, steep, uphill hike with some poison oak. Meet at northeast corner of Douglas Courthouse parking lot, 1036 SE Douglas Ave., Roseburg. Alternate meeting area for carpooling, Riddle exit McDonalds 9 am. For more information call Sam at 541-673-0589.

May 20, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Callahan Ridge. Join Forest Service botanist Chris Rusch, on an expedition to view the serpentine endemic Umpqua mariposa lily (*Calochortus umpquaensis*) and a population

25th Annual Shady Cove Wildflower Show

May 6 – 7, Saturday – Sunday, 10 – 4 pm

Shady Cove School Multipurpose Bldg., Cleveland St. Shady Cove

Celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week at the annual Shady Cove/Trail Wildflower Show just 20 miles north of Medford. Over 200 live wildflower specimens will be displayed. All species are identified by common and botanical names and a botanist and master gardener will be available to answer questions. Also a plant sale, silent auction and a raffle along with a boutique and refreshments. Wheelchair access. Admission by donation. Proceeds go to Jackson County Fire District 4. Sponsored by the Wildflower Association of Shady Cove-Trail. For more information contact Fran Hazle at 541-878-3576 or oregonfran@yahoo.com.

of the rare Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus* ssp. *kincaidii*). Short easy stroll. Meet at northeast corner of Douglas Courthouse parking lot, 1036 SE Douglas Ave, Roseburg, 8:30 am or at Riddle exit McDonalds 9 am. For info call Sam Friedman 541-673-0589.

May 27, Saturday, 8:30 am

Field Trip: Cedar Springs Mountain. Join Forest Service botanist Dana York, on a trip to see the northernmost location of *Lewisia leana* at Cedar Springs Mountain in southern Douglas County among a host of other exciting colorful serpentine endemics. Short, steep, up and down, meandering hike. Meet at northeast corner of Douglas Courthouse parking lot, 1036 SE Douglas Ave, Roseburg. Alternate meeting area for carpooling, Riddle exit McDonalds at 9 am. For more information, call Sam Friedman 541-673-0589.

Willamette Valley

May 13 & 14, Saturday & Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm

Program: Mother's Day Birding and Wildflower Weekend. Wildflower walks led by NPSO members will be offered throughout the two days, starting from the Historic South Falls Lodge. Bird walks, presentations, and photo hikes will also be available. View the work of a number of nature artists, see a wildflower display or participate in crafts such as creating wildflower, birding and garden journals or building a bird nesting box. The Friends of Silver Falls will be selling wildflowers. For a full schedule of activities, registration form and overnight options at the Silver Falls Conference Center, contact Lori Webb at 503-874-0201.

May 16, Tuesday, 7 pm

Field Trip: Bush Park Walk. Chapter president John Savage will lead a walk to identify wildflowers in Bush Park and the Deepwood Estate. Participants should meet at the Mission Street parking lot near the soapbox derby track at Bush Park. Free and open to the public. For more information, please call 503-399-8615.

May 18, Thursday, 7 – 8:30 pm

Program: Beautiful Invaders—Ornamental Noxious Weeds of Oregon.

Beth Myers-Shenai, noxious weed management expert with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, will give a talk on Oregon's noxious weed problem and offer information on the identification and impacts of ornamental weeds. Straub Environmental Learning Center, 1320 A Street NE in Salem (next to Olinger Pool, near North Salem High School). For more information, please call 503-399-8615.

May 27-29, Sat. – Monday, 8 am

Field Trip: Western Siskiyou. Plant expert Wilbur Bluhm of the Willamette Valley Chapter will lead his annual Memorial Day weekend field trip at sites near the Siskiyou. Each field trip is independent of those of the other days, enabling a person to participate in field trips for one, two or all three days. The all-day field trips will start each morning at 8 am at the Gold Beach Motel 6. You must arrange for your own lodging. For more information, call Wilbur Bluhm at 503-393-2934. Free and open to the public.

Day Hikes in the Owyhee Desert

continued from 43

chalks. A few that you are likely to encounter include: the milkvetches *Astragalus calycosus* and *Astragalus tetrapterus*, several species of thick-stemmed hairy cabbage, genus *Caulanthus*, and carpets of unusual annuals such as *Chaenacis cusickii*, *Eatonella nivea*, *Phacelia gymnoclada*, and Torrey's desert dandelion (*Malacothrix torreyi*). The best time to go is the end of May. The flowers are beginning to peak and the moisture of spring intensifies the bright banded hues of the chalk formations. It is best to contact the Vale District BLM regarding road conditions, especially concerning standing water.

The second hike I will describe begins at the Anderson Crossing of the West Little Owyhee River near the tri-corners where Idaho, Oregon, and

continued on page 52

June 3, Saturday, 7 am to 6 pm

Field Trip: Dog Mountain. Participants in this all-day hike will have fun identifying and viewing wildflowers on Dog Mountain located in the Columbia Gorge on the Washington side. Chapter President John Savage will lead the hike. This is a difficult hike with a 3000' elevation gain, but the flowers are well worth it. For more information or to register, please call 503-399-8615. Free and open to the public.

William Cusick

May 13, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Blue Mountain Crossing Park. We will focus on finding the plants described by the Lewis and Clark expedition. Meet in front of Max Square in La Grande at 9 am to car pool to the park. *Fritillaria atropurpurea*, *Allium tolmiei*, *Camassia quamash*, and several *Balsamorhiza* species are expected. Bring a lunch and water if you want to stay past noon. Moderate hiking involved. For more information call Kent Coe at 541-962-7049.

West Eugene Wetlands Celebration

May is designated as American Wetlands Month across America, and it presents an ideal opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors and celebrate at the West Eugene Wetlands. Educational and recreational activities include: bird and butterfly walks, up close looks at wildflowers, a presentation on otters, and a photography workshop and wetland photography exhibit. These activities will be hosted by local wetland experts and enthusiasts. For those that prefer unstructured opportunities, there are numerous trails and interpretive sites to explore. For details contact Holly McRae, Environmental Education Coordinator for the Willamette Resource Education Network at 541-683-6494 or visit www.wewetlands.org.

OTHER EVENTS

Berry Botanic Garden Events

To register or to get more information on events at Portland's Berry Botanic Garden, visit www.berrybot.org or call Kris at 503-636-4112x22.

Gardening for Birds and Wildlife May 6, Saturday, 11 am – 1 pm

Blooms in the Desert May 10, Wednesday, 7 – 8:30 pm

Ginny Maffitt will show pictures of extravagant wild flowers in the Southern California high desert taken by 6 photographers during the June 2005 annual Penstemon Society trip. \$6.

Mt. Pisgah Events

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

Gardening for Wildlife Habitat May 7, Sunday, 1 – 4 pm

Join Evelyn Hess, of Lorane Hills Farm and Nursery, and learn how to incorporate food sources, water and shelter into your garden to meet the needs of microorganisms, insects, birds, and reptiles. \$20. Pre-registration required.

Wildflower Festival & Plant Sale May 21, Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm

Enjoy a display of hundreds of wildflowers and educational exhibits prepared by NPSO and Lane Community College. 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!

PlantNative's Spring Native Plant Sale

Plant pick-up: May 13, Saturday, 9am-noon
Pre-order deadline: May 9, Tuesday, midnight

This is a pre-order plant sale, although there will be some extra plants for your perusal. This sale is being put on in collaboration with Livable Place. Sale details, including plant availability lists and plant pick-up address, can be found at: www.plantnative.com/plantsale_main.htm or contact Steve Adamson at 503-248-0104 or inbox@plantnative.com

Audubon's Native Plant Festival And Sale

May 20 & 21, Saturday & Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm

Audubon Society of Portland's 10th annual Native Plant Festival and Sale, featuring over 100 native species, will take place at 5151 NW Cornell Road, Portland. The event is under cover in case of rain. Knowledgeable volunteers and staff will be on hand to answer gardening questions. Proceeds benefit our Nature Sanctuaries.

Institute of Contemporary Ethnobotany

Ethno-Ecology Field Trip May 7, Sunday, 9 am

This all-day field trip will introduce basic botanical concepts, identification, ecology, edibility and medicinal value of our native flora. \$15-\$45. Meet at Red Barn Natural Grocery, 357 Van Buren St. Trip will require carpool drivers—please call ahead to coordinate.

Siskiyou Field Institute Courses

To learn more about our courses or to reserve your place, visit our website, www.thesfi.org, or call 541-592-3777.

Birds and Blooms Weekend May 20 & 21, Cave Junction, OR

- Serpentine Plant Ecology, Tom Kaye
- Wild Edible Plants and Plant Uses of the Siskiyou, Janet Yoder
- Wildflowers and Plants of the Illinois River Canyon, Wayne Rolle

Illustrating Klamath River Wildflowers

June 1 – 4, Ashland, OR

Sketch and paint wildflowers with professional illustrator Dr. Linda Ann Vorobik at beautiful Sandy Bar Ranch.

Botanical Identification Workshop May 28, Sunday, 12 – 6 pm

Learn plant anatomy, family characteristics, and how to use a botanical key. The Strawbale at Maitreya Ecovillage, Broadway & Almaden, Eugene. \$25–50.

Botanical Identification Field Trip May 29, Monday (Memorial Day), 8 am – 7:30 pm

Prerequisite: Botanical Identification Workshop (or prior experience). Emphasis on family recognition and using botanical keys. We will cover the ecology, edibility, and medicinal value of our native flora. \$35–80.

For all events, bring lunch/dinner, *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* by Hitchcock and Cronquist, and hand lens. For more info or to sign up, contact Tobias Policha at 541-513-8263 or contemporaryethnobotany@yahoo.com.

Native Plant Nursery Open House & Sale

May 6, Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm

The Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah will give tours of the growing nursery and its new greenhouse and seed processing facilities, and offer refreshments and sales of native seeds and plants (from wildflowers and grasses to shrubs and trees). The Native Plant Nursery supplies plants and seed for restoration projects at the park and beyond. To get there, follow Seavey Loop Rd. (Eugene) to Buford Park, cross the bridge, turn left and follow the signs to the nursery. For more information about this free event: 541-344-8350 or www.bufordpark.org.

Candidates for NPSO Board Positions

The NPSO Nominating Committee offers the following list of candidates for the State offices. Ballots must be returned to the Ballot Counting Committee postmarked by June 1, 2006. Newly elected individuals assume office during the Annual Meeting.

President:

David Lebo (Portland) is former president of the Klamath Basin NPSO chapter and has given presentations on lichens, fungi, and bryophytes to the Portland and Siskiyou NPSO chapters. He earned an M.S. in forest ecology from the University of Washington and currently works as the westside zone botanist for the Mt. Hood National Forest. David has taught courses in botany and ecology at the Oregon Institute of Technology, Marylhurst University, and the Siskiyou Field Institute, and has been hiking, climbing, and botanizing throughout the Pacific Northwest for 25 years.

Vice-President:

Dan Luoma (Corvallis) has been a member of NPSO since about 1980. In the past he has been both State President and Vice-president. His academic training is in ecological plant geography. Dan is a professor, specializing in forest mycology, with the Department of Forest Science at Oregon State University. His teaching includes a course on forest mycology offered through the Siskiyou Field Institute and Southern Oregon University. Primarily, he pursues research on the diversity of ectomycorrhizal fungi in the forests of the Pacific Northwest. Dan was selected as a Distinguished Alumnus for 2004 by Lane Community College, Eugene, Oregon. The award recognizes its recipients for achievements in their profession and for their service to the community. Dan was chosen, in part, due to his long record of service to NPSO.

Secretary:

Harold Zald (Corvallis) has been a member of the Corvallis Chapter since 2003. Harold received his B.S. and M.S. in Resource Ecology and Management from the University of Michigan, and is a Ph.D. student in the Forest Science Department at Oregon State University. Harold has previously

worked as a field botanist for the U.S. Forest Service in Washington and Michigan, and was recently the project coordinator for a restoration ecology study in mixed-conifer forests of the southern Sierra Nevada, California. He is currently working on a project examining the spatial dynamics of tree line and subalpine vegetation in the Oregon Cascades and received NPSO's Leighton Ho Memorial Field Research Grant to assist with that effort.

Treasurer:

Candice Guth (Portland) is the Finance Director for Oregon Natural Resources Council. She is a CPA in Oregon and has worked for non-profits since 1990. Candice has been State Treasurer of NPSO for four years. Studying native plants and birds are her hobbies.

Directors-at-large:

Matt Gordon (Portland) received a BS degree in Ceramic Engineering from the University of Washington in 1987 and later pursued his interest in the natural world by obtaining an MS degree in Biology from Portland State University in 2003. Currently he is working on a project that uses DNA technology to monitor a rare fungus in its native habitat in Oregon. He is concerned with the conservation of Oregon's botanical and fungal treasures for future generations.

Leslie Gottlieb (Ashland) retired from the University of California, Davis in 2004, after which he and his wife moved to Ashland. At Davis, he was a Professor of Genetics and on the faculty for 35 years. His research covered a broad array of subjects including plant genetics, plant speciation, and evolutionary biology. Many of his studies dealt with rare and endangered species, particularly in the genera *Clarkia* and *Stephanomeria*. He authored the successful petition to the

Federal Government to list *Stephanomeria malheurensis*, known only from a single locality in eastern Oregon, as a rare and endangered species. Work from his Master's degree (Oregon State University) demonstrated that a number of manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos*) in southwestern Oregon were simple hybrids and not species as thought at the time. His Ph.D. work (Univ. of Michigan, 1969) examined patterns of diversity and mechanisms of speciation in *Stephanomeria*.

Now back in Oregon, he looks forward to hiking and learning about plants throughout the state, and to helping NPSO increase public interest in our wonderful and diverse flora.

Ron Hatt (Myrtle Creek) is the outgoing President of the Umpqua Chapter. Ron has been instrumental in gaining visibility for NPSO in Douglas County and in growing the membership of the chapter. He also led the chapter's efforts in hosting last year's NPSO annual meeting. Ron will use his enthusiasm and experience to gain and maintain NPSO membership state-wide.

Frances Stilwell (Corvallis) has been Corvallis Chapter secretary for three years, a member for ten. Her main interest is publicizing native plants. She received her BA in Botany in 1963 and MS in Botany-Biophysics in 1967 from University of Cincinnati. She organized displays in businesses for Native Plant Appreciation Weeks 2005-6. She wrote and illustrated the book, *Come Walk Through Spring with Bessie Gragg Murphy and her Willamette Valley Wildflowers*, and exhibited fifty paintings of native plants across Oregon for four months at the Four Rivers Cultural Center in Ontario.

New Picture-Packed Field Guide for the PNW

Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest by Mark Turner and Phyllis Gustafson, Portland: Timber Press, 2006. ISBN 088192-745-7. 512 pp., 1248 color photos.

reviewed by Melody Clarkson, *Emerald Chapter*

For nature enthusiasts who love to know the names of the wildflowers they encounter from southern British Columbia to the Klamath-Siskiyou region of Southern Oregon and Northern California, there's a new field guide out. Hitchcock and Jepson will still be the definitive, comprehensive guides, but botanists and natural history buffs alike will want a copy of *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest* (WPN) with photographs by Mark Turner and plant descriptions by Phyllis Gustafson. It offers a thorough, one-book coverage of the areas most of us hike and drive, including the diverse Eastside and often-ignored Siskiyou-Klamath regions.

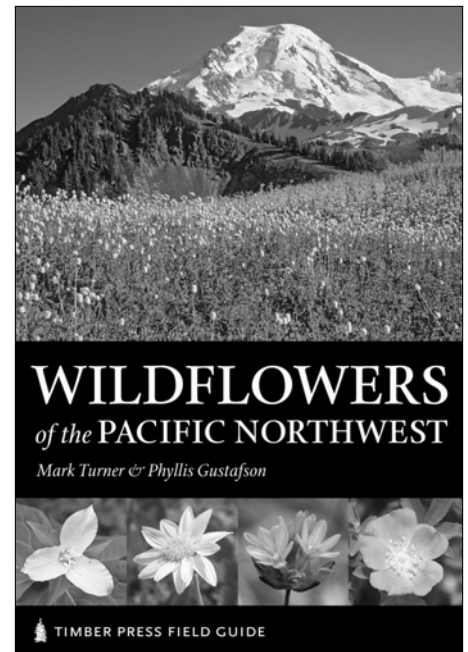
WPN describes 1220 perennial and annual species, including some shrubs with significant flowers. For most entries Phyllis details flower and leaf size and shape, as well as color irregularities, flowering season, specific habitat and native status. Both a photograph of the flower and a map showing the growing region by county accompany each entry. Confronted with selecting from the abundance of wildflowers in the geographic region covered, the authors state that they "chose the showier species at the expense of plants with small and nearly insignificant flowers."

Before the individual flower entries (three to a page) begin, pages 13 through 56 offer more than the usual in the way of introductory information. Besides chapters on "How to Use This Book" and "Exploring for Wildflowers," the authors give must-read descriptions in the chapter, "Climate, Geography, and Plant Habitats." The numerous landscape pictures in this section are stunning! It's hard not to be impressed with the photographs throughout the book, fine in detail and accurate in color, a paean to Mark's botanical knowledge, photographic expertise and perhaps, most importantly, his tenacity.

All field guides come with inherent organizational dilemmas. Mark and Phyllis have chosen to organize their wildflower selections by color, then flower petals, and finally alphabetically by family and genus within each flower petal category. Many of us amateur botanizers have learned to identify some families and look for characteristics of familiar genera when identifying flowers. Looking first at color may seem a little backwards, but isn't that how we first describe the flower to our botanist friends: "Oh, I saw this incredible blue flower today?"

Color selection quickly narrows the search for both the inveterate botanizer as well as the first time enthusiast. Most will switch quickly from the blue to the red section when unsure of where to start with a violet flower and efficiently will locate the family within the color through the help of guide words on the edge of all pages. These include categories such as "3 or 6 petals," "5 symmetrical petals (ovary superior)," as well as "many petals" and "no obvious petals," helping some to a greater awareness of plant families. For the amateur who has read a little about sepals and tepals and ray flowers and disk flowers, this could first offer some confusion, but reading the section on plant families in the beginning of the field guide should clarify the usage of petals for even the beginning botanizer. At the bottom of a page, the user will find additional pages referenced for any differently colored members in a genus, a great feature for those who like to see all of the species in a genus. The detailed information suggests that Phyllis deserves kudos for her knowledge, her research and her persistence as well.

In my backyard I actively used the guidebook to see how easily I could identify some familiar wildflowers. *Cardamine nuttallii* var. *nuttallii* was easy with its pink color and four petals. (And without the book I would have



continued to call it *C. pulcherrima*.) I had little trouble identifying several other local wildflowers. However, using the guide as a reference, perhaps to learn a flower's color, requires the use of the index. Both the Latin and selected common names appear together alphabetically. The common names are alphabetized by the first letter of the entire name. This causes considerable frustration at times. For example: Whether my bluebells are a *Mertensia* or a *Campanula*, I won't find "bluebells" as an entry in the index unless I look for "broadleaf bluebells" (*M. ciliata*) or "Scouler's bluebells" (*C. scouleri*). The same is true for forget-me-nots. One must know "meadow forget-me-not" (*Hackelia micrantha*) or "small flowered forget-me-not" (*Myosotis laxa*).

A number of NPSO members have discussed the fact that the book uses the term "saprophytic" incorrectly for both Indian pipe and pine-drops, and the WPN's description of the former mentions that the phantom orchid also is considered saprophytic. Recent research points out that these species are mycoheterotrophic, not saprophytic (living on decaying matter). The term mycoheterotrophic refers to species which lack chlorophyll and are epiparasitic in nature—they obtain carbon indirectly from their green host plants via connections with mycorrhizal fungi.

continued on page 52

Remembering John Reynolds

by Vernon Marttala, of Portland Oregon, and Carol Wilson, currently of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, who were members of the Friends of the Columbia River Herbarium with John Reynolds. The following remembrance is primarily of NPSO member John Reynold's second career as a botanist after he retired as a physician specializing in neonatology.

John Reynolds was educated in Portland, receiving a BA from Reed College, where his father taught, and an MD from the University of Oregon Medical School in 1956. During the next four decades he did research in pediatric endocrinology in Minnesota and Sweden and eventually headed infant intensive care units at the University of Minnesota Hospitals and at OHSU.

After retiring in 1997, he pursued his love of plants, taking classes in botany, mastering the subject well enough that he ended up helping in advanced classes taught by Carol Wilson and Clyde Calvin and becoming deeply involved in the herbarium at Portland State University. From its inception he was the chairman of the Friends of the Columbia River Herbarium, formed to advance the PSU Herbarium, and a primary booster of the herbarium, as well as one of its most assiduous volunteers. John Reynolds was devoted to this herbarium, to the idea of herbaria, repositories of much fundamental plant knowledge; he visited other herbaria to learn how to improve Portland State's Herbarium. He shared his knowledge about herbaria, for example, giving a presentation at the Berry Botanic Garden in October, 2001 at a series of lectures connected with the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial; he talked about herbaria: what they are, what they do and why they are important.

John was dedicated to the appreciation and preservation of nature, especially Oregon's. He looked forward each year to spring wildflowers in the Gorge, observing which flowers were earlier or later or more or less abundant than was typical. John's knowledge of the relatively less known flora of the northern Oregon coast, where he also spent much time botanizing (from Seaside to the Columbia River, especially

in the Necanicum estuary and the Gearhart bog), and the challenging grass family was particularly impressive. Always the educator, John enjoyed introducing the novice or visitor to wildflower areas and their resident plants. Keenly aware of the unique botanical and scenic resources of the Columbia River Gorge and the north coast of Oregon, he was active in efforts to preserve these national assets; he was a member of the boards of the North Coast Land Conservancy and Friends of the Columbia River Gorge.

Carol Wilson's graduate student Lisa mentioned his role as a mentor to young botanists as well. John gently and not so gently but with humor prodded her into quitting smoking—an action that she values [nearly] as much as encouraging her in her research.

John died Jan. 19th from cancer. His friends, and the beneficiaries of his interests, our plants and their study, herbaria, and land conservation, will miss him; he was a gentle-man (both senses) and a scholar. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, his brother Richard of Yachats, two nieces and a nephew.

Book Review

continued from 51

Coralroots also fall into this category though the guide does not mention this characteristic or their lack of green leaves. The WPN does say that *C. maculata* has "bractlike" leaves but doesn't mention that these leaves retain the stem color. This possibly could cause some confusion. These discrepancies, however, are minute in comparison to the knowledge and guidance the book offers. It belongs in all of our backpacks or automobiles. Thank-you Phyllis and Mark.

Day Hikes in the Owyhee Desert

continued from 48

Nevada seamlessly join amidst a sea of sagebrush. From Burns Junction at the junction of Hwy 78 and Hwy 95, continue south towards McDermitt. You will cross Blue Mountain Summit. Approximately 10 miles south of this summit, look for a junction with a signed gravel BLM road going east (Oregon Canyon Road to the west). Turn left, east, here and continue climbing to Jackson Summit. The road descends for 10 miles or so coming to a signed junction. Take the right fork. This is a good, freshly graded BLM road. The challenge here lies in two creek crossings. They are worth checking before entering. The first crossing is at Big Antelope Creek. You will arrive at the second after descending into the canyon of the West Little Owyhee River at Anderson Crossing. Park and camp primitively, if desired, off to the left just after crossing. The river here is small and there are some beautiful pools for a dip just downstream from the camping area. The landscape is open with unusual rhyolite formations where many beautiful plant species unique to this area thrive. Hike downriver through narrow Louse Canyon or upriver through a beautiful open canyon. Floral highlights here include many species of the spring-blooming genus *Erigeron*, the daisy-like desert fleabane. *Erigeron latus* is common here and has a very interesting disjunct distribution. Populations of *Collomia renacta* have recently been discovered here and nearby after being "lost" from the flora of Oregon for many years. And notice the unique *Ivesia shockleyi* and *I. baileyi* growing from cracks and crevices in the rhyolite rimrock. Besides this diverse high desert flora, keep an eye out for caves, pronghorn, mountain lions, and amazing petroglyphs. Be sure to tread carefully with respect to rattlesnakes! The best time to visit this area is mid-June, when the wildflower carpet is at its peak. I hope some of you will take the time to enjoy these hikes and appreciate the silence and beauty of this isolated Owyhee high desert area as I have.

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Membership applications, renewals and change of address (include old address) should be sent to the Membership Chair.

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A Gorgeous New Venue for the 2006 Mt. Pisgah Wildflower Festival!

by Rhoda Love, Emerald Chapter

Frankly, I cannot wait for Sunday May 21! After setting up 26 annual Wildflower Shows in a gloomy and drafty metal World War II Quonset hut at Mt. Pisgah, we will at last have a gorgeous venue that will do credit to our wildflower display, and of course, to any other event to be staged there in the years to come.

A bit of history: Freeman Rowe, my friend and colleague at Lane Community College in Eugene, conceived of the first Wildflower Show in 1980. We all remember the day because that morning Mt. St. Helens blew her stack! After that, Freeman and his LCC students organized the show for many years, usually with the help of David Wagner of the University of Oregon. After several years of graduate work at the University, I returned to the LCC

staff, and, with my botany students, joined Freeman in collecting and setting up the annual show—still, of course, in the dark and windy Quonset. In 1988 the Emerald chapter of the NPSO volunteered to help prepare the show, and has done so to the present day. When Gail Baker became part of the LCC staff, she and her botany classes also joined in the preparations. Freeman, David, and I, all now retired, have continued to take part in the show. For over a quarter century, we have done our chilly set-up in that dim and clammy Quonset. At times, we would return the day of the show to find the structure had become a wind tunnel during the night and many of our bouquets and vases had crashed to the floor!

Now is the spring and summer of

my content! All is new and wonderful—bright and beautiful! The stunning White Oak Pavilion will be the new home of our MPA-LCC-NPSO Wildflower Show forever more. The joy of large windows and plenty of light. The ability to close the doors when the wind blows! The new larger size, which will allow room for visitors to move easily among the flower displays. *Bulletin* readers will not want to miss this year's show. In honor of the new pavilion, NPSO has prepared brand new plant labels in bright clear plastic holders, offering new information about each species. Although I have become a senior citizen since that first show in 1980, I feel like a kid again at the prospect of setting up our display in this magnificent new venue. See you there!