# Bulletin

of the

# Native Plant Society of Oregon

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

VOLUME 50, No. 6 JULY 2017

# John Jeffrey Rediscovered

by Gabriel Hemery

In 1850, under the employment of Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE), young Scottish tree-hunter John Jeffrey was dispatched to seek highly-prized exotic tree species in North America. The expedition was overseen by a group known as the Oregon Botanical Society, comprising subscribers ranging from wealthy Scottish landowners, plant nurseries, and even the British royal family.

An early letter home tells of a 1,200 mile transcontinental journey on foot. Later, tantalising botanical samples arrive from British Columbia, Oregon, Washington, and California, yet early promise soon withers. Three years after setting out John Jeffrey disappeared

without a trace. Those at home wondered whether he was he lost to love, violence, or the Gold Rush. The secrets of the extraordinary adventure lie in his precious journals that remained lost, until their discovery, 160 years later.

"I have determined that I will start back north tomorrow, and find company as soon as possible in case my wounds fester, although I now feel a little more myself. The snow-clad peak of Mount Shasta exerts a dominant presence in this place, its foothills providing fertile hunting grounds for the botanist. Before me tall pines, all of the same new species, grow between massive boulders extending without interruption down the valley and far into the distance. This land is a paradise so rich it would

see the same gentlemen emptying their purses to secure more collectors. Yet their ambitions might be cruelly shattered by my appearance."

Sadly news of the discovery of John Jeffrey's journals is untrue, and the extract above the figment of imagination from a fertile if expert mind. *Green Gold* is a work of biographical fiction, based on a true story told by Gabriel Hemery, a contemporary tree-hunter, forest scientist, and co-author of the award-winning book *The New Sylva* (Bloomsbury Publishing 2014).

John Jeffrey had a tough assignment, not only following in the footsteps of David Douglas, but also finding that his expedition coincided with the Gold Rush. At the time his work ethic was questioned and his disappearance remained a mystery. Thanks to his efforts however, the seeds from 119 species reached Edinburgh, and more than

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## Native Plant Society of Oregon

#### World Wide Web

http://www.NPSOregon.org

#### E-mail Discussion List

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

#### **General Business Address**

P.O. Box 902 Eugene, OR 97440 or correspond directly with Officers and Committee Chairs listed on the inside of the back page.

#### Membership Inquiries Only

Matt Morales P.O. Box 80714 Portland, OR 97280

# Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon

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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.

# June 2017 NPSO State Board Meeting Highlights

by Lisa Blackburn, State President

Thea Jaster of the Oregon Flora Project shared progress on completion of Volume 2 of the *Flora of Oregon*; publication is anticipated at the end of 2018. The silent auction at the Annual Meeting raised \$700 for the Oregon Flora Project.

The High Desert Chapter will be a co-host with the Portland Chapter for the 2018 Annual Meeting, which will be held in Prineville June 15–17, 2018. The Siskiyou Chapter agreed to host the 2019 Annual Meeting.

A new Membership Chair and EarthShare Liaison are still needed.

The Website Committee presented their summary of bids received on the NPSO website redesign. There were two frontrunners; the Board selected Rareheron Web Design. The core functions include membership and calendar. The company can provide managed hosting (server allocation and maintenance). The Website Committee will coordinate migration of the bulk of content from the current NPSO website.

#### **New NPSO State Board Members**

New State Board members were installed at the 2017 Annual Meeting Saturday night banquet. Mary Beth Averill, Susan Berger, and Billy Don Robinson, the three outgoing Directors, were recognized for their service. The new NPSO State Board is:

President: Lisa Blackburn
Vice President: Dan Luoma
Secretary: Steven Yeager
Treasurer: Cyndi Dion

Directors: Thea Cook Jaster, Michael McKeag, Zak Weinstein (to 6/2018)

Dawn Anzinger, Alexis Brickner, Esther McEvoy (to 6/2019)

# **Share Your Annual Meeting Photos and Stories**

Do you have fond memories of this year's Annual Meeting in the "Hundred Valleys of the Umpqua?" Perhaps you saw intriguing species on a field trip, caught up with old friends, or volunteered to help the event run smoothly. You are invited to gather your memories into text, photos, or illustrations and share them in the *Bulletin*. NPSO armchair travelers are waiting for you to submit your articles and/ or high resolution images (minimum of 120 dpi) to bulletin@NPSOregon.org by July 24.

# **Wychus Creek Restoration**

Deschutes Land Trust began a restoration project at Wychus Creek and the meadows at Wychus Canyon Preserve about a year ago. They report that the 60,000 native trees, shrubs, grasses and wildflowers that were planted are doing very well. In addition, Peck's penstemon has been found in the restored meadow. This penstemon is only found in the Sisters area and was not part of the restoration planting. For more information on this restoration project, visit deschuteslandtrust.org/news/news-items/2017-news-items/checking-in-on-the-whychus-canyon-preserve-restoration.

## **NPSO CALENDAR**

#### **State Notes**

NPSO State Board Meeting October 14, Saturday, 10 am-2 pm

The next State Board meeting will be hosted by the Mid-Columbia Chapter. Location: Hood River Library, 502 State St.

Save the Date! NPSO Annual Meeting 2018 June 15-17, Friday-Sunday

The next Annual Meeting will be cohosted by the Portland and High Desert Chapters, in Prineville.

#### **Blue Mountain**

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

#### Cheahmill

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

Meeting and work party location: Carnegie Room, McMinnville Public Library, 225 NW Adams St. (corner of Highway 99W and SW Second St.), McMinnville. Parking lot entrances on Adams and Second Streets.

No chapter programs are scheduled during the summer. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 28.

July 29, Saturday, 10 am-noon

August 26, Saturday, 10 am-noon

Work Party: Native Plant Garden.
Join the NPSO Garden Crew working around the Carnegie Building. This mature native plant garden needs only a couple hours of crew work each month, as long as there are enough volunteers! Everyone learns how to identify local native plants vs. weeds. Bring gloves, bucket and gardening tools if you have them. Location: McMinnville Public Library, see above for details. For more

information, contact Catie Anderson at catie.fishback@gmail.com or 503-435-2401.

#### **Corvallis**

For questions, information on upcoming events, or to be on the Corvallis chapter email list, contact co\_president@NPSOregon.org.

# IMPORTANT NOTE TO FIELD TRIP PARTICIPANTS

Field trips take place rain or shine, so proper dress and footwear are essential. BRING WATER AND LUNCH. Trips may be strenuous and/or hazardous. Participation is at your own risk. Be prepared to sign a release form indicating this. A sample waiver form is available at http://npsoregon.org/ documents/NPSO\_waiver.pdf. Please contact the trip leader or chapter representative about difficulty, distance, and terrain to be expected on field trips. Dogs are not allowed. All NPSO field trips are open to the public at no charge (other than contribution to carpool driver) and newcomers and visitors are always welcome. You must preregister for all events. National Forests require a Northwest Forest Pass for some field trip locations. Permits can be acquired at forest headquarters and ranger districts.

# NOTICE TO FIELD TRIP CHAIRS AND LEADERS

The Forest Service and other agencies have set policies limiting group size in many wilderness areas to 12. The reason is to limit human impacts on these fragile areas. Groups using wilderness areas should be no larger than 12. A trip leader checklist and sample waiver form are available at: http://npsoregon.org/calendar.html

#### **Emerald**

Visit the Emerald Chapter Web site at http://emerald.npsoregon.org to learn more about the latest chapter events, plant lists & botanical information about Lane County plants & the people who love them.

July 8, Saturday, 9 am-4 pm Field Trip: Upper Elk Meadows. Alan Curtis leads this hike about 30 miles from Cottage Grove at 4,000 feet elevation. Over 200 species of vascular plants have been identified here. We expect to see Frasera umpquaensis and several orchid species. Surrounding the meadow is an old growth forest of Abies amabilis, Abies grandis, and Pseudotsuga menziesii. We will walk 1.5 miles through moist meadow. Wear boots and bring lunch and water. Location: meet at South Eugene High School, 19th and Patterson. For more information, email Alan at abcwoods1@gmail.com.

#### July 15, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Gordon Meadows. Join John Koenig, Tanya Harvey, and Dave Stone for an exploration of Gordon Meadows, a beautiful complex of wetlands at the end of the proposed Douglas-fir National Monument, east of Sweet Home. Colorful wildflowers as well as unusual species can be found on this 3.5 mile round-trip trail with only 300 ft. of elevation change. Co-sponsored by Emerald Chapter NPSO and Friends of Douglas-fir National Monument. Location: meet at Campbell's Senior Center by Skinners Butte Park to carpool for this all day trip. Limited to 10 participants. For more information and to register, contact Dave Stone at 541-729-8787 or dns@efn.org. For information on Gordon Meadows, visit westerncascades.com/sites/linn-county/ gordon-meadows; for monument info, visit douglasfirnationalmonument.org.

# Filipendula

This is a newly formed chapter for the northern Oregon coast area. For more information, visit our Facebook page: NPSO-Filipendula Chapter, or contact Field Trip Chair Carla Cole, colecarla@yahoo.com.

## **High Desert**

For information, visit the High Desert Chapter website: www.highdesertnpsoregon.org and Facebook page: Native Plant Society of Oregon: High Desert Chapter, or email highdesertnpso@gmail.com.

#### Klamath Basin

For information on the Klamath Basin Chapter, visit http://klamathbasinnps.com or contact the chapter president, kb\_president@NPSOregon.org.

#### **Mid-Columbia**

For information on the Mid-Columbia Chapter, contact Sara Wu at mc\_president@NPSOregon.org.

#### **Portland**

If you would like to receive the chapter's semi-official email newsletter, The Calochortus, email Don Jacobson at donjphoto@gmail.com.

Facebook: Take a look at our Facebook page. Native Plant Society of Oregon-Portland-Chapter. It will have the most up-to-date information on hike and other events as well as great plant pictures.

The Portland Chapter meets the second Thursday of most months. Meetings and programs begin at 7:00 pm. **MEETING PLACE: TaborSpace at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church**, 5441 SE Belmont St., Portland. We will meet in **Copeland Commons**; enter the church through the main door off Belmont and turn right to enter the room. Parking is available in the church lot on the NW corner of SE 54th and Belmont.

July 9, Sunday, 9 am-5 pm
Field Trip: Mt. Hood Plants and their Pollinators on Mt Hood. Zak
Weinstein of NPSO-PDX is partnering with Kim Hack of Bark to co-lead this trip. We will hike at high elevation in the Zig Zag district of Mt Hood, where we've seen woodland species such as Rhododendron macrophyllum, R. albiflorum, and Erythronium montanum. We'll likely also encounter some of the earlier blooming flowers on the

open rocky slope. Limited to 20 participants, split into two groups, RSVP to michael@bark-out.org. For carpool information, visit bark-out.org/event/july-bark-about-hike-0.

# July 15, Saturday, 8:30 am-5:30 pm

#### Field Trip: Lookout Mountain.

Join co-leaders Don Hardin and Ron Klump on this trip east of Hood River Valley. We'll hike the loop from High Prairie to the top of Lookout Mountain and down to Gumjuwac Saddle. A variety of forest, meadow, and rocky outcrops with lots of good plants. The hike is seven miles with 2,000 ft. elevation gain. Round trip drive is 150 miles paved, 12 miles gravel. NW Forest Pass required. To sign up for the hike or for more information, contact Ron Klump at ronklump55@comcast.net.

#### July 22, Saturday, 8 am

Field Trip: Observation Peak Trail and Sister Rocks at Trapper Creek **Wilderness.** This 5,969 acre wilderness protects nearly all of the Trapper Creek drainage and provides critical anadromous fish habitat in the Wind River watershed. We will hike through a silver fir nature preserve to the top of Observation Peak, 5.6 miles round trip with a 1,390 ft. gain. Expect old growth forest plants and bear grass, penstemons, paintbrush, gentians and Campanula on the higher rocky outcrops. Led by Nancy Chapman and Willow Elliott. To sign up for the hike and for information on carpooling, contact chapmannj@comcast.net.

July 28, Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm Field Trip: Silver Star Mountain. The rocky soil and open meadows of Silver Star Mountain offer subalpine and alpine wildflowers not usually seen at this low (4,390 ft.) elevation. Climbing higher takes us back in time to earlier spring flowers, including Xerophyllum tenax, Calochortus subalpinus, Erythronium montanum, Lewisia columbiana, Ligusticum grayi, and five penstemon species. The summit view offers fivevolcanoes, the Columbia River, and Vancouver and Portland. This moderate hike is 5.6 miles round trip with a 1,240 ft. gain along a high ridge.

Hiking boots and poles recommended, bring lunch, water, binoculars, etc. This hike is co-led by Don Hardin and Ron Klump. To sign up for the hike or for more information contact Ron Klump, ronklump55@comcast.net.

#### July 29, Saturday, 9 am

Field Trip: Saddle Mountain. This botanic gem near the coast hosts Dodecatheon dentatum, Corydalis scouleri, Allium crenulatum, Lewisia columbiana, Sidalcea hendersonii, Polypodium scouleri, Saxifraga cespitosa, and many others. If we make it to the summit and the weather cooperates, we'll be treated to a view from Mt. Rainier to Mt. Jefferson. Full day. The hike is 5 miles round trip with a 1,600 ft. gain, though at a botany pace (slow). 160 miles round trip from Portland. To sign up, contact leader Rick Shory, rickshory@gmail. com or 503 253-8100.

#### August 12, Saturday

Field Trip: Mount Hood Meadows. TENTATIVE DATE DEPENDING ON BLOOMS. When the wildflowers have dried out everyplace else this is the place to go for stunning views of a wide variety of alpine flowers. We will use the Mount Hood Meadows chair lift (\$10 for the day) to quickly gain the high mountain meadows. This chair lift now runs to the top of the slope on weekends during the month of August. To sign up, contact Don Hardin at donhardin2@gmail.com.

#### August 19, Saturday, 10 am

Field Trip: Umbrella Falls. Hike about 3 miles through a fir understory of anemones, bead lilies, strawberry, vanilla leaf, lupine, orchids, and huckleberries and bear grass in season. As the trail winds upwards look for alpine species including fleabane, asters, paintbrush, columbine, penstemons, shooting stars, and on a good day sixty+ species. We will leave cars for a shuttle after viewing Umbrella Falls or return an extra 2 miles via the Sahalie Falls loop. Elevation gain is 1,325 feet. I have logged more wildflowers on this hike than anyplace else. Location: meet at parking area at 9:45 am; hike starts at 10 am. Please contact Don Hardin at donhardin2@gmail.com to sign up.

#### August 26, Saturday, 10 am

Field Trip: Young's Creek. This is a wetlands hike in Rooster Rock State Park. From Crown Point a waterfall makes a dramatic drop into Mirror Lake. Young's Creek runs from the east end of the lake for an easy stroll of about 2 miles. The resulting wetlands are rich with flora not seen in your usual habitat—wapato, sneezeweed, spotted jewelweed, cut-leaf blackberry (and Himalayan), and purple loosestrife. This area is currently under water and it will be interesting to see the effect of this year's flooding when and if the trail dries out. To sign up contact Don Hardin at donhardin2@gmail. com.

## Siskiyou

To join the Siskiyou Chapter email list: Send an email, from the address at which you want to receive announcements, to announce-join@siskiyou.npsoregon.org. No subject or message is required. You will get a confirmation email. If you would like to volunteer to lead a hike in 2017, make a suggestion, or provide feedback regarding the field trip program, please contact Julie Spelletich at: jspelletich@gmail.com. Join us on Facebook at: facebook.com/SiskiyouChapterNativePlantSocietyOfOregon.

#### The next Siskiyou Chapter program/ meeting will be Thursday, September 21.

#### July 3-4, Monday-Tuesday

**Volunteer: Irene Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show.** We are seeking volunteers to help with: flower collecting, show set-up, and plant identification on July 3; staffing the show on July 4; and breaking down the show from 4 to 6 pm. Free pizza for those who help the evening of July 3. For more information contact Barb, bamumblo@gmail.com or 541-890-2091.

# July 4, Tuesday, 10 am-4 pm Event: Irene Hollenbeck Memorial Wildflower Show. Come meet some of our beautiful mountain flowers! This show, coordinated by the Siskiyou Chapter, NPSO, features over 300 species of native flowers from the volcanic Cascades, the much older Siskiyous,

and the valleys in between. Free admission. Location: Ashland Community Center, 59 Winburn Way (across from Lithia Park in Ashland).

#### July 30, Sunday, 10 am

Field Trip: Poison Meadows—West **Boundary of Crater Lake National** Park. Join Jennifer Beck, Crater Lake National Park botanist, for a moderate off trail hike on rolling terrain through forest stands and meadows where we will see a variety of plants, including Mt. Mazama (Collomia mazama), leather grape-fern (Sceptridium multifidum), and mountain owl clover (Orthocarpus imbricatus). Bring lunch, hat, and sunscreen. Location: meet at the junction of Deer Creek Road (NF 6260) and Highway 62 (just east of the junction of Highways 62 and 230). Dirt road drive to hiking spot is 30–45 minutes. For more information and to register contact Julie Spelletich at 541-951-1744, jspelletich@gmail.com.

## **Umpqua Valley**

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

# Willamette Valley

For program information, contact John Savage at 503-399-8615.

August 25-27, Friday-Sunday
Field Trip: Wildwood Retreat at Mt.
Hand Lein Street Environmental

Hood. Join Straub Environmental Center educators and Willamette Valley Chapter NPSO members for a weekend adventure in the scenic Wildwood Recreation Area near Mt. Hood. The excursion includes flower-viewing trips to Multorpor Fen and the Cascade Streamwatch Loop trail; Tribal Ecological Knowledge presentations; gourmet campfire meals with wine, and overnight lodging in the Mt. Hood Tiny House Village. For more information and to register, contact Kourtney at 503-779-5227 or Kourtney@straubenvironmentalcenter. org.

#### **William Cusick**

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



# **EarthShare Oregon Liaison Needed**

EarthShare Oregon (ESOR) is a workplace fundraising entity for environmental organizations. NPSO is a member group and as such we receive funding through ESOR. We are looking for an NPSO volunteer to be our liaison to ESOR. The main tasks are to coordinate the annual affiliation agreement in the spring, to recruit promotional items and volunteers to staff ESOR events such as workplace presentations, and make occasional ESOR webpage updates, which includes letting ESOR members know of NPSO volunteer opportunities or events. This is a key position as we rely on these funds to support NPSO field research grants, Institute for Applied Ecology interns, Oregon Flora Project, and mailing out the *Bulletin*. If you are interested, please contact Lisa Blackburn at president@npsoregon.org.

John Jeffrey, cont'd

400 plant specimens were received by the Herbarium at RBGE, including seeds and/or specimens of 35 conifer species. Two plant species still bear his name, *Dodecatheon jeffreyi* and *Pinus jeffreyi* while a third, *Penstemon jeffreyanus*, was later renamed *P. azureus* by botanists.

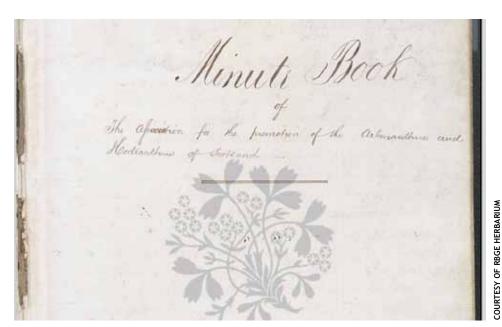
Author Gabriel Hemery relied heavily on the archives of RBGE for much of his research, and has also been working closely with their staff in planning a special exhibition that will open at the Garden to coincide with the book's publication in early 2018. The archives of the Hudson's Bay Company also revealed essential details about his travels.

The book is to be published thanks to a modern twist on an old publishing model that requires sponsorship from individuals.

Find out more at gabrielhemery. com/books.



Typus (conserved type) specimen of Jeffrey pine (Pinus jeffreyi) in the RBGE herbarium, sent home to Scotland from North America by John Jeffrey



The Minute Book of the Oregon Botanical Association

# David Douglas' Journal, 1823-1827

Editor's Note: Read more about John Jeffrey in Volume 13 of Kalmiopsis, available online at npsoregon.org/kalmiopsis/kalmiopsis13/lang.pdf. Though we can only imagine Jeffrey's thoughts and prose, the journal of David Douglas, who preceded Jeffrey, is available. Here is an excerpt from his travels along the Columbia River. To read more, visit sos.wa.gov/legacy/publicationsviewer/?id=56

[June 1825] Salmon are also caught on sandy shores, where free from large stones, with a draught net in the same manner as the salmon fishing in Britain. The net is made of *Apocynum* bark, floated by pieces of wood in lieu of cork. This mode is only practised where there are no rapids or projecting rocks, or places to make channels for the scoop net.

From the Rapids to the Great Falls, distant about fifty-eight or sixty miles, the banks are steep and in many places rugged. Some of the hills are very high but all destitute of trees or large shrubs. The wood becomes smaller the further the river is ascended. *Acer* is not found above the Rapids; *Thuya*, *Pinus balsamea* [Abies balsamea], and one species of *Populus* on the edges of creeks, all

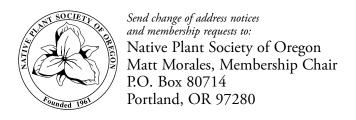
of which gradually diminish into low scrub-wood.

Sixteen miles below the Falls we are no longer fanned by the huge pine stretching its branches in graceful attitude over a mountain rivulet or deep cavern, or regaled by the quivering of the aspen in the breeze. Nothing but extensive plains and barren hills, with the greater part of the herbage scorched and dead by the intense heat. I had to cross a plain nineteen miles without a drop of water, of pure white sand, thermometer in the shade 97°. I suffered much from the heat and reflection of the sun's rays; and scarcely can I tell the state of my feet in the evening from the heat in the dry sand; all the upper part of them were in one blister.

Six miles below the Falls the water rushes through several narrow channels, formed by high, barren, and extremely rugged rocks about two miles long. It is called by the voyageurs *The Dalles*. On both sides of the river very singular rocks of a great height are to be seen, having all the appearance of being waterworn; not unlikely they have been the boundaries of the river at some former period.

# NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF OREGON MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name		DUES include monthly Bulletin and Kalmiopsis when published.	
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	E-Mail	Student – \$12	\$35
Chapter (if known)		Sustaining – \$60 Patron – \$125 Life Membership – \$500 Subscription Only (Bulletin and Kalmiopsis) – \$25 Only for those who	
Is this a change of address? If so,	please write your old address here:	wish to subscribe, but do not want to have full members	
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		president@NPSOregon.o	
		past_president	
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Treasurer	Cyndi Dion	treasurer	@NPSOregon.org
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Mid-Columbia	Sara Wu	mc_president	@NPSOregon.org
Portland	Alix Danielsen	po_president@NPSOregon.o	org; 406-666-7888
Siskiyou	Kristi Mergenthaler	si_president@NPSOregon.o	org; 541-941-3744
Uмрqua Valley (Roseburg).	Neal Hadley	uv_president@NPSOregon.o	org; 541-679-8889
WILLAMETTE VALLEY (Salem)	John Savage	wv_president@NPSOregon.o	org; 503-399-8615
		wc_president	
STATE COMMITTEE CHAI	RS		
Budgets and Grants	Dan Luoma		30; 541-752-8860
Conservation	Billy Don Robinson	bdmeme@gmail.co	m; 503-515-1708
		all, Corvallis, OR 97331-2902; hardisol@science.oregonstate.ec	
	•	bdmeme@gmail.co	
		fellov	- 0 0
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PUBLICATIONS			
	Frika Wedenoia	bulletin	@NPSOregon org
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# Friends of the Oregon Flora Project

Thanks go to the NPSO Annual Meeting attendees who participated in our silent auction. Your bidding yielded \$700 for the OFP, and winners went home with a variety of great books, prints, and other goodies generously donated by several OFP supporters.

Mark your calendars: We will be having a gala fundraising event in Corvallis on October 29! The Meadowlark Baroque Trio will be featured in a benefit concert on behalf of the OFP. Plan on wonderful music, elegant desserts and wine, and inspiring company!

We are on target with our progress goals for Volume 2 of the *Flora of Oregon*. Over 75% of the floristic treatments are done; one (of five) portions is now being edited by our publisher and another section is close to submitting, and we have a draft of one of the front chapters. If you have not yet signed up to sponsor a treatment, illustration, or chapter, check out the opportunities at oregonflora.org/flora.php.