

Washington Native Plant Society South Sound Chapter

June 2000



Dear Friends,

This is for me a time to look back and look forward. Last year was eventful and exciting. We began meeting in the Forest Service Building. Our monthly meetings have been well attended and given us food for thought. We revised and adopted our bylaws in accordance with the State organization. We made a large display board and have taken it far and wide, spreading our mission of education and appreciation of our native habitat. We have set up a web site. These few activities represent only a small fraction of what your chapter does; there are also conservation, study and field trip opportunities.

The new officers we elected on May 3, 2000 are as follows: Chair, **Perry Lund**; Vice-chair, **Lisa Berntsen**; Secretary, **Julie Alesio**; Publicity, **Michelle Anderson**; treasurer and newsletter, **Jenifer Parsons**; liaison with NPSP, **Erica Guttman**; Field Trip, **David Brastow**; Conservation, **Mary Fries**; Volunteer coordinator, **Lila Muller**. I know they will do a great job with your support. Have a great summer and hope to see you on some of our exciting field trips, and when our regular monthly meetings resume next fall.

Warmly,

Lila Muller

From the editor: Thank you to Mary Fries, Perry Lund, Lila Muller and Michelle Anderson for contributions to this newsletter!

Summer Field Trips and Workshops

Saturday, June 17th; 9:00am - 1:00pm

Close-up Photography Workshop, Scatter Creek Wildlife Area. Wildlife photographer and author, Bill Leonard, will show us how his techniques for close-up photography work for plants as well. Bill and Mark Shehan will present an overview of photometrics, exposure, equipment, technique, and composition for close-up work. This four-hour workshop should cover the basics of most of the subjects Bill presents in much longer courses. The cost will be \$10 (this money will go directly to the WNPS South Sound Chapter; Bill and Mark are volunteering their time).

Participation will be limited to a number Bill thinks he can handle. Call (357-8590) or email (perrynkim@home.com) Perry Lund to register and to get directions.

Thursday, June 29, 2000

Grass ID workshop with Marty Chaney. This will be held at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Call Michelle Anderson to register at 709-0053.

Wednesday, July 5, 2000

Celebrating Wildflowers trip to Clear West Peak. A ridge trail with varied flora culminates with a close view of Mt. Rainier's north side. Organized jointly with the National Forest, this hike is led by WNPS member June Coloff, sign-up is with the White River Ranger Station in Enumclaw: 360-825-6585.

Saturday, July 22, 2000

Scatter Creek Wildlife Area monitoring trip. We will look at both summer flowering prairie natives as well as exotics, checking particularly for mouse-ear hawkweed and knapweeds. For sign-up and carpool arrangements, call Carol Piening, 360-352-3395 or Mary Fries, 253-272-9192.

Saturday, July 22, 2000

Celebrating Wildflowers - Dales Ridge, off Hwy 410. A hike through forest and meadows on a ridgetop which has not been disturbed by timber harvest. Leader, June Coloff. To sign up, call the White River Ranger Station in Enumclaw, 360-825-6585.

Saturday, August 19, 2000

We are really pleased to announce a field trip to *Mt. Rainier* led by David Biek, the author of the new *Mt. Rainier Flora*. We will carpool, call Lila Muller, 570-8296, for more information and reservations as there are only 12 spaces

Native Plant Society of British Columbia Workshops 2000

The Native Plant Society of British Columbia provides a variety of workshops that are suitable for botanists, naturalists, and native plant gardeners. For more information on what is available, contact the coordinators: Brenda Ramsay (250) 638-8436, e-mail: bramsay@kermode.net David Williams (250) 828-5426, e-mail: dwilliams@cariboo.bc.ca

Volunteer Opportunities

June and July

The Mt. Rainier National Park greenhouse, near Ashford, needs help with transplanting and other chores. Their goal is 70,000 plants for restoration in various parts of the park. To arrange a time, call Emily-Robin Pierce at 360-569-6220.

Late August through September

Seed collection for Mt. Rainier meadow restoration activities will be needed again as seeds ripen. Dates, subject to weather conditions, will be during the week mainly, but may include a Saturday or two. Contact Mary Fries if you would like to be put on our calling list: 253-272-9192 or 620 North C, Tacoma, WA 98403.

Notice of Public Hearings

The Pierce County Hearings Examiner will be conducting a series of public hearings to receive comments on the proposed Master Plan Resort, Mt. Rainier Resort at Park Junction (Conditional Use Permit, Case No. CP5-96; Environmental Appeal, Case No. AE6-99). Park Junction is a 440 acre proposal for a destination resort seven miles from the Nisqually entrance to Mt. Rainier National Park. The schedule for the hearings is as follows:

May 31: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Pierce County Services Building (Annex; behind Costco off of 38th Street)
Planning and Land Services Public meeting Room
2401 S. 35th, Tacoma, WA

June 1: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Pierce County Public Services Building (Annex)

June 2 and June 5:

9:00am - 4:00pm

Pierce County Public Services Building (Annex)

June 6: 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Columbia Crest Elementary School
24503 SR706 East, Ashford, WA

June 7, 8, and 9 (if needed):

9:00am - 4:00pm

Pierce County Public Services Building (Annex)

Written comments can be sent to:

Pierce County Hearings Examiner
2401 S. 35th Street
Tacoma, WA 98409

For more information call:

Pierce County Public Services
(253) 798-7210 or 1-800-992-2456

For a coordinated WNPS response, please call Mary Fries, Conservation Chair, (253) 572-4329

Summer Camp Time!

The South Sound Chapter of the Washington Native plant Society has offered to sponsor as many as four campers (two girls, two boys) for the Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island this summer. The standard fee is still a bargain at only \$200 for one week. However, have your child, or a friend or other family member, email a brief letter with an explanation about why they would like to go to this camp. The WNPS Board (probably Perry) will select the best. Dates for this year's camp are:

Girls - July 16 - 22

Boys - July 23 - 29

Call (360-357-8590) or email (perrykim@home.com) Perry Lund for more information about the camp and this offer. Look on our webpage (WNPS.org, then click on the South Sound Chapter button) for a copy of the camp brochure.



South Sound
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