



The Acorn

*Serving the South Sound Chapter of the
Washington Native Plant Society*

Winter 2017

A Successful Fall Plant Sale

Neither rain, or threat of rain, could deter our intrepid volunteers or the enthusiastic plant buyers who attended our Fall, 2016 native plant sale. The sale was held once again at the Capital Museum Coach House in Olympia from 9 am to 3 pm although we were essentially out of plants by 2 pm. This year, we included a number of special and unusual plants as well as our standard stock. All were sold. We were touched again by the number of people who thanked us for having the sale and are looking forward to the spring sale, April 22, 2017. We thank all our buyers and our plant suppliers. With their help, we sold almost \$7,000 worth of native plants.

As always, the sale could not succeed without a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers who potted plants, donated plants, and worked the sale from set up to cleanup: Allan Borden, June Colloff, Dennis Plank, Gail Trotter, Byrna Klavano, Sharon Bergquist-Moody, Don Guyot, Pat and Dan Montague, Cyndy Dillon, Cherry and Jim Pedrick, Kit Ellis, John Neorr, Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Merrilee Rambeau, Penny Douglas, Jane Ostericher, Lee Fellenberg, Chris Earle, Sue Butkus, Mary Sue Gee and Bill Brookreson.



Spring Native Plant Sale Saturday, April 22, 2017

Get ready. Make your plant lists. With the coming of spring flowers, the thoughts of gardeners turn to planting. Volunteers are already potting bulbs and other plants to be ready. Again this year, our spring plant sale will be held at the Capital Museum's Coach House, 9 am-3 pm. We need volunteers on Friday, April 21, for set up and Saturday, April 22, for the sale. If you want to volunteer for either or both dates in April in preparing plants and set up, have native plants to donate, want to work the sale, or have specific plants you would like us to look for as we acquire plants for the sale, contact Bill Brookreson at 253-292-8570, b.brookreson@comcast.net, or Bonnie Blessing-Earle at bonnie.blessing@gmail.com. To volunteer you may contact Cyndy Dillon at cpdillongh@comcast.net.

Election Results

The election results for the 2016-17 WNPS South Sound Chapter officers were as follows.

12 regular mail ballots sent out; 2 returned
193 e-mail ballots sent out; 23 returned
TOTAL RECEIVED – 25

Bill Brookreson, Chair	25
Jane Ostericher, Vice-chair, Pierce	25
Bonnie Blessing-Earle, V-chair, Thurston	25
Sharon Bergquist-Moody, Secretary	25
Jane Ely, Treasurer	25

Votes tallied by Lee Fellenberg,
November 7



Other S. Sound Chapter Activities

Jean Richards Award

On September 24, our chapter was honored by the Washington State Historical Society for the volunteer work in maintaining and improving the Delbert McBride Ethnobotanical Garden and leading public tours of the garden. Bill Brookreson accepted the award on behalf of the chapter and our hard working, regular volunteers including Dan and Pat Montague, Sharon Bergquist-Moody, Roxy Giddings, Alan Borden and Jim and Cherry Pedrick.



Additional Donation to the revised Flora of the Pacific Northwest

Thanks to your support for our native plant sales, the South Sound Chapter donated another \$2,000 to the work to revise the Flora of the Pacific Northwest. The effort is headed up by David Giblin and Ben Legler of the Burke Herbarium at the University of Washington. The chapter received a fine letter of thanks and an update from Dick Olmstead, David Giblin and Ben Legler.

“We continue to make great progress on the revised Flora, with draft treatments completed for 80% of the families and 70% of the species, respectively. Project illustrators have produced over 850 new illustrations to date and are currently busy working on more. We will use your donation to commission new drawings for the revised keys that we are generating.

Thank you again for your wonderful support and generosity.”



A Salute to Lee Fellenberg



Every organization has people who are absolutely critical to their success but who work quietly, mostly behind the scenes. Lee Fellenberg, a charter member of WNPS, is one such person for the South Sound Chapter. With Lee's work schedule, he hasn't attended chapter meetings but every member profits from his contributions. The electronic and hard copies of the Acorn and the Monthly

Updates go out because Lee does that. We have audio visual equipment for our meetings and an electronic cash register for our plant sales because Lee contributed them. He has led the money collection at our plant sales. He has been an invaluable member of the chapter's board.

When it comes to Information Technology and the website. Lee manages it for us. In January, Lee will be retiring and later in the Spring moving to Idaho where, in his own generous way, he will still handle our IT needs from a distance. Nonetheless, we will miss his physical presence at our activities. How incredibly lucky we have been to have him as a part of our chapter.

Washington State Fair Booth

This year's Washington State Fair ran September 2-25. Again this year, WNPS had a booth in the Northwest Outdoors Building. This year, we shared the booth with the Center for Natural Lands Management. Cyndy Dillon recruited the volunteers to staff the booth. We had 42 volunteers filling shifts. John Neorr was the lead in coordinating with the building committee and Byrna Klavano maintained the booth display. As in past years, the booth provided an excellent venue to talk about the work of WNPS and native plants. Thanks to all our volunteers who represented us so well. *(Photo on page 8)*

Hikes and Field Trips

Chapter members continue to work on arranging hikes and other native plant walks. These will be announced on the website and in the monthly updates. If you have a favorite hike you would like to share and lead, please contact Cyndy Dillon at cpdillongh@comcast.net.



Blanchard Forest Strategy Agreement

Brenda Cunningham Chair, Salal Chapter of WNPS

The Chuckanut Mountains, a range of foothills north of the Samish River, is host to the last bit of forest connecting the Cascades to the Salish Sea. As such, these hills are important to many species of plants and animals dependent on the nearshore forests that once dominated the coastlines of Puget Sound. The western slopes of the Chuckanuts overlook Samish Bay, while the eastern slopes face the rugged Twin Sisters and Mount Baker. In between are stands of large conifers, forested wetlands and freshwater lakes.

Much of the forests in the Chuckanuts are in the DNR state trust lands program to be managed for income for various public beneficiaries. This pits disparate needs of the community against one another. The lands have become much loved for recreation, but they have also grown in importance as this forest type has become rare. Animals, like marbled murrelets, are dependent on this forest for nesting habitat. At the same time our state is struggling to find funds for education. Is the logging of these lands the appropriate solution?

In 2006 the Department of Natural Resources convened a group of interested organizations and citizens to craft a management plan for the forests of Blanchard Mountain that would address all the concerns of the various groups. The Blanchard Forest Strategy Agreement was signed in 2008, proposing to protect 1,600 acres of the core area of forest by funding the purchase of replacement lands for the state trust lands program, while allowing the adjacent lands to be logged. Nearly half the funding required has been secured, but an additional \$7.7 million dollars is needed. Time is running out and if the remaining funds are not secured the agreement will expire and logging will begin, perhaps as soon as 2017. The agreement represents an unprecedented partnership between community groups in a political age of few compromises. Please take some time to read more about this agreement at the website below and then write to your legislator to urge funding of the Blanchard Forest Strategy. <http://tinyurl.com/grnrhfa>



The marbled murrelet is a small seabird from the North Pacific. It nests in old-growth forests or on the ground at higher latitudes where trees cannot grow. Its habit of nesting in trees was suspected but not documented until a tree-climber found a chick in 1974, making it one of the last North American bird species to have its nest described.

Another Year

By Bill Brookreson



It is my privilege to serve another year as chair of the South Sound Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society. I thank you for that trust you have placed in me.

Before I retired in 2007, I spent 33 years in the public service with the Washington State Department of Agriculture. In that role, I learned to appreciate the people who unselfishly gave their time and energy back to their community. One of the greatest privileges of being chair is working with so many people in our chapter that give even more unselfishly of their time and effort to making our community a better and more beautiful place.

We have so many people that give of their time I am almost afraid to begin to enumerate them because I will miss so many. We have a number of projects that involve members directly. Cyndy Dillon lead volunteers in restoration at Tacoma Nature Center. Gale Sklar leads volunteers at China Lake. Luis Yanez lead a group at Ryan's Park. I have steady volunteers at the Capital Museum Native Plant Garden. Others like Gale Trotter work on restoring the South Sound Prairies. All of the volunteer work is not for WNPS. Hundreds of hours are freely given. A number have other restoration projects beyond WNPS.

We have a number of members who combine their work for WNPS with being Master Gardeners. Cyndy Dillon does a wonderful job coordinating volunteers for everything from the Washington State Fair, to hikes and presentations. John Neorr and Jane Ostericher work with grants and the schools.

Twice yearly we have a plant sale that raises money for community and chapter activities. Dan and Pat Montague, Sharon Bergquist-Moody and the other volunteers are already preparing plants for the sale in April. Bonnie Blessing-Earle, beside the plant sale, gives tremendous energy to saving the endangered Oregon spotted frog. Helen Engle is a legend for her environmental work.


The list goes on and on. This barely touches the surface of all the community work that is being done by South Sound members. Some of it I only learn second hand, after the fact. This is not a group that blows its own horn but it sure makes beautiful music. I just hope I can continue to be of help.

(Photo of China Lake work party, 11-5-2016, appears on the outside of the newsletter, page 8.)



Chapter Meetings

Meeting Times and Locations: We are very pleased to offer another series of interesting and educational speakers for our fall meetings. Chapter meetings are 7-9 pm. Meetings are normally scheduled on the second Monday (Olympia) and the second Wednesday (Tacoma) of each month from September through May. Meetings consist of a quick review of local items and announcements, and a presentation lasting approximately an hour. Programs are geared for all levels of botanical knowledge. Unless otherwise noted, as with the September meeting, all Tacoma meetings are at Tacoma Nature Center, 1919 South Tyler Street, Tacoma. All Olympia meetings are at Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 21st Avenue SW, Olympia. Meetings are free and open to the public. Please contact Sue Butkas at presentations@southsoundchapterwnps.org if you have a suggestion for a future presentation.

February 2017	<p>Wednesday, February 8 (Tacoma) Dr. Rita Hummel <i>Using Native Plants in Rain Gardens</i></p> <p>Dr. Hummel is a retired Horticulturist from Washington State University. Join us to hear about some of her most recent research work which has been on plant varieties for use in landscapes, most specifically on plant varieties for use in rain gardens. You can read more about Dr. Hummel's research in the article "Growth and Establishment of Managed Grasslands and Ornamental Grasses in the WSU Puyallup Research Rain Gardens" at http://tinyurl.com/gtmdqys.</p>	
	<p>Monday, February 13 (Olympia), Dr. Rita Hummel <i>Using Native Plants in Rain Gardens</i></p> <p>See above for details.</p>	
March 2017	<p>Wednesday, March 8 (Tacoma), Jim Hadfield <i>Dwarf Mistletoe</i></p> <p>Have you ever noticed mistletoe on trees in our region, maybe even in your own back yard? Dwarf mistletoes in the genus <i>Arcethobium</i> are native plants that parasitize conifers of Pacific Northwest forests. Curious to know more about these unique native plants? Jim Hadfield will describe the geographic and host ranges of these interesting parasites. The effects – both negative and positive – of dwarf mistletoes on trees and forests will be described through photos. Jim Hadfield is a retired Forest Pathologist with the US Forest Service.</p>	
	<p>Monday, March 13 (Olympia), Sue Milliken and Kelly Dobson <i>Botanizing in China</i></p> <p>Sue Milliken and Kelly Dodson of Far Reaches Farm will take you along on their Oct-Nov 2015 plant hunting trip to China's Chongqing, Hubei, Anhui and Zhejiang provinces. Among the many obviously exotic species, they will point out surprising parallels in shared genera among our own native flora. China has a staggeringly complex flora with over 33000 species of vascular plants and many familiar genera got their evolutionary start in the botanical petri dish of China's complex geography and diverse climatic influences. This will be more fun than technical. If you have not seen a presentation of theirs you will want to be there; if you have seen a presentation of theirs you will really want to be there. Their collecting trips are reminiscent of the travels of early botanists in our area – think of people like David Douglas and Archibald Menzies. Sue and Kelly own and operate a specialty nursery called Far Reaches Farm in Port Townsend. A visit to their nursery, which is occasionally open for retail sales on weekends, is a worthwhile plant experience in its own right. Visit their website at http://www.farreachesfarm.com/</p>	

April 2017	<p>Monday, April 10 (Olympia), Dan Hintz <i>The Balancing Act: People and the Environment Along the I-90 Corridor</i></p> <p>Dan Hintz is the Restoration Specialist for the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust. Dan studied environmental horticulture at the University of Washington specializing in the benefits of healthy urban green spaces. He will talk to us about the balancing act of maintaining and restoring natural habitat and biodiversity while improving the quality of life and building community.</p>
	<p>Wednesday, April 12 (Tacoma), Dave Peter <i>Mapping the Historic Prairies of the Olympic Peninsula</i></p> <p>We are pleased to welcome Dave Peter again to speak with us. Dave has his PhD from the University of Washington in Forest Ecology. Dave specializes in how forests respond to changes in the environment for the United. State Forest Service's Olympia Forestry Sciences Laboratory. He will share with us his current work to characterize and map the historic prairies of the Olympic Peninsula.</p>
May 2017	<p>Monday, May 8 (Olympia), Dr. John Bishop <i>Revegetation of Mt. St Helens</i></p> <p>Once again, the South Sound Chapter is working in cooperation with The Evergreen State College and Dr. Frederica Bowcutt to present a special program in the Evergreen College Music Auditorium. This year we will have Dr. John Bishop, Associate Professor at Washington State University Vancouver's School of Biological Sciences. John's work has been on "Response of populations, communities, and ecosystems to catastrophic disturbance" focused on the plants, animals, and soils of the primary successional Pumice Plain of Mount St. Helens. Much of this work is focused on herbivore effects on keystone plant colonists, such as a Lupin (<i>Lupinus lepidus var. lobbii</i>, and its specialist lepidoptera herbivores), and Willows (<i>Salix sitchensis</i>) and cascading effects on community and ecosystem development. Those who have heard John speak will attest that this is a fascinating talk you will not want to miss. Go to https://labs.wsu.edu/john-bishop/ to learn more about Dr. Bishop's work including a PBS news hour video.</p> <p>Note: the meeting will be at the Evergreen State College.</p>
	<p>Wednesday, May 10 (Tacoma) To be announced</p>

Other Plant and Seed Sales

WNPS Central Puget Sound Chapter Spring 2017 Native Plant Sale

Scheduled for April 29 at the Mercerdale Park on Mercer Island. Check the WNPS website for detail as available.

Pierce Cty Master Gardener's Plant Sale

Sale is scheduled for April 29 (9 am-4 pm) & April 30 (9-3) at the WSU Almendinger Conference Center, 2606 W. Pioneer Way, Puyallup. The sale will feature vendors and plants grown by Master Gardeners, as well as books for sale.



Tacoma Nature Center Spring Plant Sale May 6, 9 am – 2 pm

Landscape your yard with plants that are native to our area. Planting natives ensures the conservation of our precious water resources and provides habitat for local birds, mammals and insects. A list of available plants will be posted on the website by 1:00 pm on Friday, May 5. Come early for the best selection.

www.tacomanaturecenter.org



Native plants have been shown to save money in many different ways. One study by Applied Ecological Services (Brodhead, WI) of larger properties estimates that over a 20 year period, the cumulative cost of maintaining a prairie or a wetland totals \$3,000 per acre versus \$20,000 per acre for non-native turf grasses.

Native Plant Appreciation Week April 23-29, 2017

This will be the 14th annual Native Plant Appreciation Week (NPAW) in Washington. Governor Gary Locke proclaimed the first NPAW in 2004 at Washington Native Plant Society's request. Governor Gregoire and Governor Inslee have continued the proclamations. This week is a celebration of the amazing diversity of Washington's over 3000 native plant species that inhabit deserts, rain forests, high alpine environments, river valleys and even backyard landscapes, and all the good work being done to protect and preserve it. We hope you take the opportunity that NPAW provides to spend a few hours enjoying our wonderful flora in whatever way is meaningful to you, whether it be attending a formal program or just taking a quiet walk in a natural area or park. We will kick off NPAW a day early with our spring native plant sale. Watch the website and monthly updates for other scheduled events

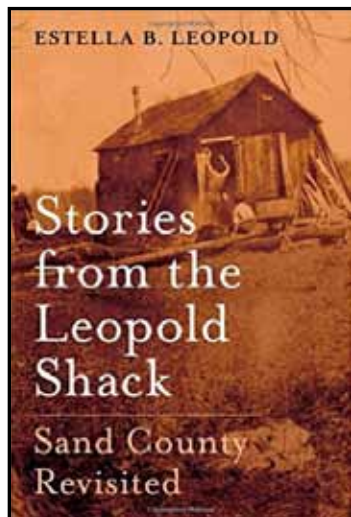


Native Plant Study Weekend May 19-21, 2017

This year's Native Plant Study Weekend, "From Sagebrush to Subalpine: Exploring the Diversity of Eastern Washington Landforms and Flora" will be led by the Northeast Chapter. Base of operations will be at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. Watch the monthly updates and the WNPS website (www.wnps.org) for more details.

Botany Washington, June 9-11, 2017

Botany Washington (BotWa) will be centered at the Tierra Learning Center in Leavenworth and will focus on the flora of the Wenatchee Mountains. Once again, BotWa will be co-sponsored by the Native Plant Society and the University of Washington Herbarium at the Burke Museum. Planning for the annual event is underway. Registration information will be released in early January 2017. Registration will be online, with print details sent to chapter chairs for newsletters in January.



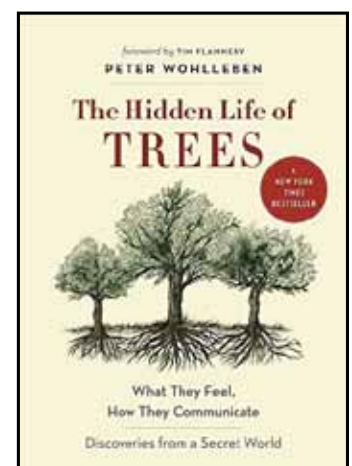
Native Plant Resources

Stories from the Leopold Shack: Sand County Revisited by Estella B. Leopold, Oxford University Press, 2016. \$27.95

Many of us have read and treasured Aldo Leopold's book, *A Sand County Almanac*, and *Sketches Here and There*. Estella is the youngest Leopold child and later botany professor at the University of Washington who has put together her memories of her childhood when Aldo was developing his Land Ethic. The first part of the book is mostly memories with delightful pictures by Estella's brother Carl. The second part talks more about some of the family restoration efforts since Aldo's death. The section on prairie restoration is particularly interesting. For Leopold fans, the book is a delight.

The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate, Discoveries from a Secret World by Peter Wohlleben, Graystone Books, 2016, \$24.95

Occasionally, you find a book that is fascinating from beginning to end. This is one of those. Every chapter has some insights into how trees and forests function. Although Wohlleben is a German forester who manages a deciduous forest, the insights are relevant to us as well. The book has an excellent scientific grounding and yet is written with a rare joy of discovery. Wohlleben, in providing human characteristics to trees, will annoy some readers, but the science is solid. It's a very worthwhile read.



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Conservation Committee Chair - Vacant

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**Fill in to join or renew my membership in the
 WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

New Membership Membership Renewal

Name: _____
 Organization: _____ (if applicable)
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Country: _____
 Telephone: _____ Email address: _____
 I do not wish to receive Douglasia I do not wish to receive WNPS email

Please check the desired membership category:

Member Category and Dues	
Individual	\$35
Family	\$45
Club/Organization	\$65
Student	\$20
(Name of Institution)	
Friend	\$50-\$99
Special Friend	\$100-\$499
Best Friend	\$500-\$999
Sustaining Member	\$1,000
Patron	\$5,000

Membership entitles you to one chapter affiliation; for each additional affiliation, please add \$7.00.
 Check the Chapters with which you wish to affiliate.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Puget Sound (King & S. Snohomish Co.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Olympic Peninsula
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Washington (Yakima & Ellensburg)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sisal (Mt. Vernon & Skagit Valley)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Columbia Basin (Tri-Cities & Walla Walla)	<input type="checkbox"/>	San Juan Islands
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kamoa Kulsan (Bellingham)	<input type="checkbox"/>	South Sound (Pierce Co. & Thurston Co.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NE Washington (Spokane)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suislawia (Wanouver & Columbia Group)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Okanogan (Windrop)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wenatchee Valley
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	All Large

Please remit by check

Dues as selected above: \$ _____
 Additional Chapters X \$7 each: \$ _____
 Additional Donation: \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Make checks payable to WNPS and mail to:

Washington Native Plant Society
 6310 NE 74th St., Ste 215E, Seattle, WA 98115
 Phone: 206-627-3210 Email: info@wnps.org
 or go to www.wnps.org/membership to pay on-line



South Sound Chapter WNPS

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*Printed on acid-free, 30 percent
post-consumer fiber recycled paper.*

The mission of the Washington Native Plant Society is to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education, and advocacy.



China Lake work party



Washington State Fair Booth