



The Acorn

*Serving the South Sound Chapter of the
Washington Native Plant Society
Fall 2015*

Life Above the Treeline: Plant Adaptations to the Alpine With Andy MacKinnon

Join us on September 30 for a very special kickoff for our program year as Andy MacKinnon presents *Life Above the Treeline: Plant Adaptations to the Alpine*. The evening will begin at 5:45 pm with light hors d'oeuvres for WNPS members and their guests in the Recital Hall at the Evergreen State College in Olympia followed by Andy MacKinnon's presentation, which is open to the public at 7 pm.

Until his recent retirement, Andy was a Research Ecologist in the Coast Forest Region Research Section of the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. To almost everyone interested in our native plants, Andy's is a well-known name. He is co-author of *Plants of the Pacific Northwest* and more recently *Alpine Plants of the Northwest* with Jim Pojar.

The program comes from his new book. Western North America is blessed with abundant areas of alpine. The plants that make their home above treeline are a distinctive and spectacular bunch. It's a difficult place to live, but our alpine plants have evolved ingenious ways of coping with this challenging environment. Andy will show us adaptations to alpine life, illustrated with British Columbia examples. He will be available for book signing after the meeting. Please bring your own book, because books will not be for sale at the event. Orca Books in Olympia has promised to have some available.

Our special thanks to John Neorr for arranging the program and Dr. Frederica Bowcutt for arranging the venue. Come and join us for a very special evening.



Alpine Plant Pictures at MacKinnon Event

As part of our night with Andy MacKinnon, we are planning to have several "Guess That Plant" posters showing pictures of alpine plants. During the reception prior to Andy's talk, you can not only munch on tasty hors d'oeuvres but you can dazzle your fellow plant lovers with your knowledge of native plants. The plants will not be identified on the posters, but crib sheets will be provided so that you can check your guesses afterwards or cheat beforehand.



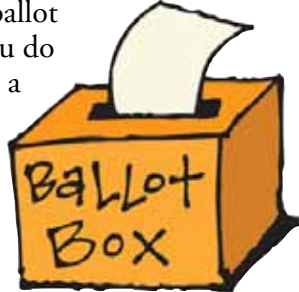
Fall Native Plant Sale

Mark your calendars for our fifth Fall Native Plant Sale, Saturday, October 3, 9 am to 3 pm, at the Capital Museum Coach House, 211 21st Ave SW, Olympia. Fall is the best time for planting your favorite trees, shrubs and perennials to give them the winter rainy season to get established. We expect to again have a nice selection of northwest natives to brighten your gardens and landscapes, build bird and animal habitat, and restore our natural environment. We can always use volunteers to set up the sale on Friday, October 2, and assist in the Saturday sale events. All proceeds from the sale benefit chapter grants and other activities. To volunteer, contact Bonnie Blessing-Earle at bonnie.blessing@gmail.com or Cyndy Dillon at cpdillongh@comcast.net.

Other South Sound Chapter Activities

Election of Chapter Officers

In 2009 the chapter modified the election procedure for officers to provide for broader participation by providing for e-mail or paper voting for the chapter officer positions. At the October chapter meetings, the proposed slate of officers will be presented by the nominations committee and additional nominations solicited. The ballot will also allow for a write in. Even if you do not desire an elected position, there are a number of other appointed positions where you can serve the chapter on the board. Currently we have a full slate of nominees from the committee as follows:



Chair – Bill Brookreson
Vice Chair (Thurston County) – Bonnie Blessing-Earle
Vice Chair (Pierce County) – Jane Ostericher
Secretary – Sharon Bergquist-Moody
Treasurer – Jane Ely

By October 20, 2015, an e-mail ballot will be sent to each member whose dues are current as of October 1 and for whom we have a current email address, and a paper ballot to each member without a current email address on file. If you have not received a ballot by October 26, contact webmanager@southsoundchapterwnps.org (Lee Fellenberg). Ballots must be postmarked by November 2, 2015, and received no later than November 6 to be counted. Results will be announced at the November meetings, on the chapter website and in the newsletter updates.



Grant Committee Report by John Neorr

Our last two outstanding grant projects have been completed and final reports submitted - the Kitsap master gardener bench in the native plant demonstration garden and the Purdy Elementary Playground Field Guides. Reports are posted on the website. We still have \$1500 left in our 2015 grant budget and there are no outstanding grant projects. Grant applications are still solicited!

WNPS Education Grant Proposals Due November 15

The Education Committee encourages educators throughout our state to develop projects about native plants and plant habitats for their classes. Education grants are also available for projects linked to gardens, museums, parks and other public displays of or about native plants.

For details go to http://www.wnps.org/education/education_grant.html

Don Knoke, in Memory

It is with a deep sense of sadness that we inform you of the death of one of the stalwart members of WNPS, Don Knoke. Those of you who have met or knew Don know what a wonderful man we have lost. Don led innumerable field trips for the Central Washington Chapter as well as at many Native Plant Study Weekends, including our own at Cispus, well into his nineties. Don, for many years, maintained the plant lists on the website. When you go to the Burke Herbarium website, Don's name is on many plant descriptions. He gave unselfishly of his time and of his great talent as a botanist. He was even a better man. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him. Don died peacefully in Ellensburg on August 1.

Other Plant Sales

Central Puget Sound Chapter's Fall Native Plant Sale

The Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS hosts this annual fall sale of a wide variety of hard-to-find native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, bulbs, seeds and ground covers that are ideal for gardens in Western Washington. It will be held Saturday, October 3, 10 am - 4 pm at the Bellevue Botanical Gardens, 12000 Main Street, Bellevue, WA. In addition, CPS is hosting an environmental fair with information booths, as well as WNPS guided tours of BBG's natural area called "The Ravine Experience." Come early for best species selections! WNPS Members can shop early, 9 to 10 am.

"Every day do something that won't compute ... Give your approval to all you cannot understand ... Ask the questions that have no answers. Put your faith in two inches of humus that will build under the trees every thousand years ... Laugh. Be joyful though you have considered all the facts ... Practice resurrection."

Wendell Berry



Native Plant Study Weekend: Islands in the Sky: A North Cascades Adventure

Native Plant Study Weekend 2015 was sponsored by the Koma Kulshan Chapter and centered at the Heather Meadows area at the end of the Mt. Baker Highway in Whatcom County. The weekend offered some great opportunities to botanize. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't entirely cooperative with rain and fog Friday and Saturday, but a nice respite on Sunday. The early summer meant many flowers were past their prime. Still, the plants were fascinating.

The "Islands in the Sky" theme reflects the nature of the North Cascades. It is a rugged mountainous region, with steep valleys and snowy peaks, as well as the largest number of active glaciers in the lower 48 states. The complex geologic history of mountain building, glacial advance and retreat, and climatic factors has created a patchwork of isolated mountaintops. These "sky islands" are home to a unique flora of cold-adapted plants that are maintained through migration barriers and climatic conditions. The weekend offered a wide range of field trips from the easy to the challenging to reach these alpine habitats.



Botanizing in the rain

Event headquarters was in the Heather Meadows area of Mt. Baker. Evening programs and meals were at the Heather Meadows Ski Lodge. Besides the array of field trips on Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday, we had excellent evening programs. On Friday, David Giblin, spoke on "Revising Flora of the Pacific Northwest - Where we are as of summer 2015" and Jim Davis spoke on plants and pollinators of Mt. Baker. On Saturday we had a special treat when Andy MacKinnon spoke on "Mycoheterotrophs: The Fungal Connection."

Our thanks to Barry Wendling and the Koma Kulshan Chapter for all their hard work in putting together an excellent Native Plant Study Weekend. It was another weekend not only of learning but also great comradeship with other native plant enthusiasts. Don't miss next year. The Wenatchee Valley and Central Washington Chapters are collaborating on a Wenatchee Mountains themed study weekend in June 2016. It would be based in Leavenworth, with the leading headquarters idea being the Wenatchee River Institute.

Botany Washington 2015 – Spring in the East Cascades

This year's Botany Washington, June 5-7, was centered at the beautiful Engalls Creek Enrichment Center in the Chelan County foothills of the East Cascades. Botany Washington is co-sponsored by the Washington Native Plant Society and the University of Washington Herbarium at the Burke Museum (WTU). It provides a range of activity for persons of all levels of botanical skill. It featured three tracks. For the serious botanist, the taxonomic sessions. On Saturday, WNPS President and WTU Research Associate Clay Antieau led a session on *Poaceae* (grasses). WTU's Ben Legler led a separate session on the *Brassicaceae* (the mustard family), with special attention given to the *Boechea* and *Arabis* (rockcross). On Sunday, Ben led a session on the families *Montiaceae* (Miner's Lettuce) and *Caryophyllaceae* (Pink), with a focus on the genera *Claytonia* (spring beauty) and *Silene* (catchfly). In improving plant keying skills in the field using Hitchcock and Cronquist's *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*, those doing keying with Hitchcock had the chance to use some of the new keys for the upcoming revision. For participants interested in exploring and appreciating the native flora in a more informal setting, botanists knowledgeable about the flora led field trips on both Saturday (Chumstick Mountain area) and Sunday (Camas Land and Blewett Pass).

Evening programs were excellent. On Friday evening George Wooten gave a presentation on fire ecology in the East Cascades region. On Saturday evening Dr. Robin O'Quinn, Associate Professor of Biology at Eastern Washington University, presented her research into the patterns and processes that shape plant diversity.



**"Better than any argument is to
rise at dawn and pick dew-wet red
berries in a cup."**

Wendell Berry

Conservation of the Morse Preserves, Graham, WA By Mary Sue Gee

The Morse Preserves contain over 200 acres. The first parcel of 52 acres of the Morse Wildlife Preserve (MWP) was donated in 1995 by Lloyd and Maxine Morse who were passionate about the protection and maintenance of natural resources. Later they donated 50 more acres, named the Maxine G. Morse Nature Conservancy. Simultaneously they donated \$50,000 in stewardship money to care for wildlife and to help with conservation and education.

To aid development of a stewardship plan for MWP, a plant inventory was immediately undertaken, sufficient to establish that five critical habitats existed: prairie, oak savanna, palustrine wetland and Muck Creek, mixed mesic coniferous forest, and a dry Douglas-fir forest. However, the need for more site-specific inventories was great, more so now as wildlife (common and unique) disappear from our region. Thus some inventories were expanded, plants and birds becoming more complete. Other inventories have a good base or are embryonic.

Two rare plant species exist on-site and have been reported to DNR's Washington Natural Heritage Program. Both species are associated with the prairie and oaks. Pictured is one that few visitors to MWP know; even fewer know where it's located! Prairie restoration is ongoing in order to diversify the habitat and enlarge the populations of plants. Over 100 oak seedlings and acorns have been planted with over 80% survivorship. Exciting results include species not only surviving but also increasing in numbers and in patch size. One of these species is *Lupinus albicaulis* (sickle-keeled lupine), a host for Puget blue butterflies. The population of *Viola adunca* (blue violet) is good and a host for the great-spangled fritillary butterfly which is



present on-site. One future conservation goal may be to augment this butterfly's population by increasing the numbers and patch sizes of the blue violet.

The forests – dry Douglas-fir, mixed mesic coniferous/deciduous, and expanding oak woods – are the largest natural resource on MWP. While some cultural disturbances, like logging, have taken place in the past, the forest canopy of leaves and needled branches effectively covers the undergrowth which is moderately high in quality and diversity. *Picea sitchensis* (Sitka spruce) are being planted in forest openings along with cedar and western hemlock to increase canopy coverage. All the forest habitats provide for a variety of mammals, and our inventory continually expands. Species include deer, coyote, raccoon, bobcat, bats, rodents, an occasional bear, a growing presence of elk and a recent tentative sighting of a western gray squirrel – a big gray furry and bushy-tailed creature hopping through the underbrush. While cougars are in the area, none have been spotted on MWP.

The Morse Preserves are large, high quality parcels of forested land, water and open prairies, and they provide exceptional habitat that is being conserved in Pierce County. Luckily, there are partners in conservation of this land – Forterra (landowner), Tahoma Audubon (education) and the Morse Force (a volunteer management group). We work together to keep this land and its wildlife in a safe state, plus providing for education. The Preserves are privately owned, but open to the public on the second Sunday of each month from April through October. Groups wanting to visit at other times need only to contact the Morse Force ([morsewildlifepreserve@gmail](mailto:morsewildlifepreserve@gmail.com)) and arrange a day and time for a private tour. Please visit and enjoy!

Note: Due to space constraints, Mary Sue's article has been abbreviated. You can read the entire article on the South Sound website.



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 John Neorr at presentations@southsoundchapterwnps.org if you have a suggestion for a future presentation.

Sept. 2015	<p>Wednesday, September 30, Kickoff meeting with Andy MacKinnon Recital Hall at the Evergreen State College in Olympia</p> <p>See the lead article for details.</p>
October 2015	<p>Monday, October 12 (Olympia), Dr. Frederica Bowcutt <i>The Tanoak Tree, An Environmental History of a Pacific Coast Hardwood</i></p> <p>Tanoak (<i>Notholithocarpus densiflorus</i>) is a resilient and common hardwood tree native to California and southwestern Oregon. People's radically different perceptions of it have ranged from treasured food plant to cash crop to trash tree. Now, despite ongoing protests, tanoaks are commonly killed with herbicides in industrial forests in favor of more commercially valuable coast redwood and Douglas-fir. In addition, tanoaks are experiencing massive die-offs due to sudden oak death, an introduced disease. Having studied the patterns of tanoak use and abuse for nearly twenty years, Dr. Frederica Bowcutt will discuss the complex cultural, sociopolitical, and economic factors affecting this Pacific coast native. Dr. Frederica Bowcutt teaches botany in interdisciplinary programs at The Evergreen State College. She specializes in floristics, field plant ecology and plant-centric environmental history. Her book, <i>The Tanoak Tree, An Environmental History of a Pacific Coast Hardwood</i>, will be on sale at the meeting.</p>
	<p>Wednesday, October 14 (Tacoma), Thor Hanson <i>THE TRIUMPH OF SEEDS: How Grains, Nuts, Kernels, Pulses, & Pips Conquered the Plant Kingdom and Shaped Human History</i></p> <p>Seeds surround us. From our morning coffee to the cotton in our clothes, the spices in our foods and the cosmetics we use, seeds are part of nearly every aspect of our lives. They give us food and fuels, intoxicants and poisons, oils, dyes, fibers and spices. Without seeds there would be no bread, rice, beans, corn or nuts. "They are quite literally the staff of life," says award-winning conservation biologist Thor Hanson, "the basis of diets, economies, and lifestyles around the globe." In his new book, <i>THE TRIUMPH OF SEEDS: How Grains, Nuts, Kernels, Pulses, & Pips Conquered the Plant Kingdom and Shaped Human History</i>, Hanson turns his eye to the ubiquitous seed plants that dominate landscapes and define entire ecosystems. Following the winding path that seeds have paved through evolution, natural history and human culture, he examines the traits and habits that have allowed seeds – and the plants that bear them – to be so successful and to so thoroughly transform our planet. His book will be on sale at the meeting.</p>
November 2015	<p>Monday, November 9 (Olympia), Gail Trotter <i>A Walk of Restoration</i></p> <p>Join Gail on a four mile walk at Thurston County's Glacial Heritage Preserve and you never need to leave your seat. On the way you will learn of the restoration practices and the results for the plants and animals that live on this prairie.</p> <p>Gail Trotter moved to Washington in 1979 to work for the Boeing Company. In the late 1980s she joined the Washington Native Plant Society. This opened many opportunities for learning about the state from hikes and volunteering. Gail's first volunteer location was the Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve where she picked up many of the skills restoration volunteers use.</p>



November 2015	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, November 11 (Tacoma), T. Abe Lloyd Wild Berries are Meant for Eating</p> <p>For thousands of years the Salish People have been enjoying the extraordinary diversity and exquisite flavor of this region's wild edible fruit. Join ethnobotanist Abe Lloyd as he shares how berries fit into the Coast Salish seasonal round of food gathering and what they can teach us about sustainable food systems. Be sure and eat before your arrive because Abe will also present a few of his favorite fruit recipes along with tips for distinguishing difficult groups like <i>Vacciniums</i> and <i>Viburnums</i>. He will have signed copies of his book, <i>Wild Berries of Washington and Oregon</i>, to sell after the presentation.</p> <p>T. Abe Lloyd has a passion for plants and indigenous foods that traces back deep into his boyhood as a scout and the son of a fly fisherman. His early aspirations as a botanist led him to Northland College on the south shore of Lake Superior, where he completed a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Management. In 2011, Abe received a Master's Degree in Ethnoecology at the University of Victoria under the Northwest Coast ethnobotanist, Dr. Nancy J. Turner. Abe now lives in his home town of Bellingham and is the Vice President of the Koma Kulshan Chapter of the WNPS. He is also the director of Salal, the Cascadian Food Institute and an adjunct instructor at several regional colleges and universities, and he actively researches, promotes and eats the indigenous foods of this bountiful bioregion.</p>	
December 2015	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, December 14 (Olympia) & Wednesday, December 9 (Tacoma) Holiday Celebrations and Member Presentations</p> <p>Chapter members involved in native plant activities and projects are invited to informally present what they have done or are working on. Presentations can include pictures, slides or other materials and can be as informal as simply speaking about your work. We request that speakers limit their presentations/talks to no more than ten minutes. In addition to these member presentations, we hope to have trip leaders present brief overviews of the trip(s) they have led. Beverages will be provided. Bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share. Door prizes will be awarded.</p>	
January 2016	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, January 11 (Olympia) & Wednesday, January 13 (Tacoma) Kevin Zobrist <i>Native Trees of Western Washington</i></p> <p>Join WSU Extension forestry professor Kevin Zobrist for a slide show presentation on the native trees that call the forests of western Washington home. Learn about their distinguishing characteristics, special features and adaptations, and ecological roles, and where you are likely to encounter them. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity to get a signed copy of his book, <i>Native Trees of Western Washington – A Photographic Guide</i>.</p> <p>Kevin W. Zobrist is a native of Western Washington, growing up in Redmond where he developed a love of the outdoors, especially forests. Kevin has two forestry degrees from the University of Washington where he also worked for several years as a forestry research scientist. He is currently an associate professor at Washington State University, primarily providing public outreach and education through the WSU Extension Forestry program. Kevin's top interests include ecology, native trees, adult education and national parks. He is based in Everett and is the author of <i>Native Trees of Western Washington</i> (wsupress.wsu.edu).</p>	

An Upcoming Event

Morse Wildlife Preserve 20th Anniversary Celebration, Sunday, September 13, 5-7 pm. Learn about the history of the Preserve and the exciting projects taking place. Meet some of the people who have helped make a difference at the Preserve. Find out how you can help. Give input on what you think the priorities of the Preserve should be. Take a guided walk on the trails. Enjoy light refreshments. Please dress casually with footwear suitable for walking on uneven ground. Parking is limited, carpool if possible. As this is a wildlife preserve, please leave pets at home. Please note: this is a fund raising event with donations gratefully accepted. Please RSVP to morsewildlifepreserve@gmail.com. The preserve is located at 25415 70th Ave E, Graham.

Stewardship and the Concept of “Responsible Care”

By Bill Brookreson



Merriam-Webster defines a “steward” as “One called to exercise responsible care over possessions entrusted to him.” That is an excellent definition for a steward as it applies to the native plants and their environments. We have been given an incredibly beautiful state and with plant communities that have been “entrusted” to us, not given, to provide “responsible care” to them, to preserve and protect them for all the generations yet to come. One of the things that makes me proudest to be a member of the Washington Native Plant Society is the number of members we have who are stewards in that finest sense – working in parks, in gardens, on the South Sound prairies and in any number of other ways exhibiting “responsible care” of our environment.

For over twenty years, WNPS has had a Native Plant Steward’s training program to provide interested people with the skills to be more effective “stewards.” Between 1996 and 2014, 562 Native Plant Stewards graduated from 24 training classes, including two in Pierce County, and have contributed back over 135,000 volunteer hours. The program produced a great amount of positive impact to the community and a great deal of benefit to WNPS in the form of more active members.

The program has had some constraints. It has been limited to urban areas in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties where classes of about 25 people attended a free ten week (every Friday, all day) training with some Saturday field trips. The classes were taught by a number of volunteer experts.

It needed a sponsor to provide about \$25,000 to defray the costs. In return for the training, a steward committed to give back 100 hours of volunteer service, for the last several years largely in



restoration projects of the city or county sponsor. The training structure excluded those unable to dedicate time to that weekly training schedule. Although the WNPS expressed a desire to expand the program statewide, there was no feasible way or resources to do so.

That changed when we received the generous gift provided in the estate of Jane Titland, and the opportunity to establish a statewide stewardship program accessible to all chapters became possible. We are in the process of figuring out how to make that a reality. There is a lot of work to do. We need to look at a program that was tailored to the Puget Sound and provide elements that make it more relevant to areas like eastern Washington. We have to find new ways to deliver the information where people are much more geographically scattered and to train people who simply cannot devote ten consecutive Fridays for classes. In changing the delivery, we need to find ways to preserve and enhance a sense of community for stewards. To help us, we have contracted with James Evans to help oversee the development of the program.

If we are successful, we will have a growing cadre of knowledgeable Native Plant Stewards who will make a difference in their communities; we will have citizens who have a growing sense of stewardship; and we will have a more active and effective native plant society. There will surely be some bumps in the road. I will keep you apprised of the progress, and I hope to be able to ask your advice as we move ahead.

“It may be that when we no longer know which way to go that we have come to our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings.”

Wendell Berry

Volunteer Opportunities

One of the goals of the South Sound Chapter of WNPS is to provide a wide variety of opportunities for people to volunteer in activities that they enjoy, and which can serve the community as well as the society. Most of those opportunities will be found in the monthly updates and on the website. Ongoing activities include:

- **Tacoma Nature Center** where Cyndy Dillon leads work parties on the first and third Fridays of the month. For details contact Cyndy at cpdillongh@comcast.net.
- **Capital Museum Native Plant Garden** where Bill Brookreson leads work parties on third Thursdays.
- **South Sound Prairie Restoration.** Center for Natural Lands Management at Glacial Heritage Preserve continue to help enhance the South Puget Sound Prairies. Work parties are every Tuesday from 9 am to 3 pm and the second Saturday. Contact ssvolunteers@cnlm.org for more information, or call (360) 570-0762.

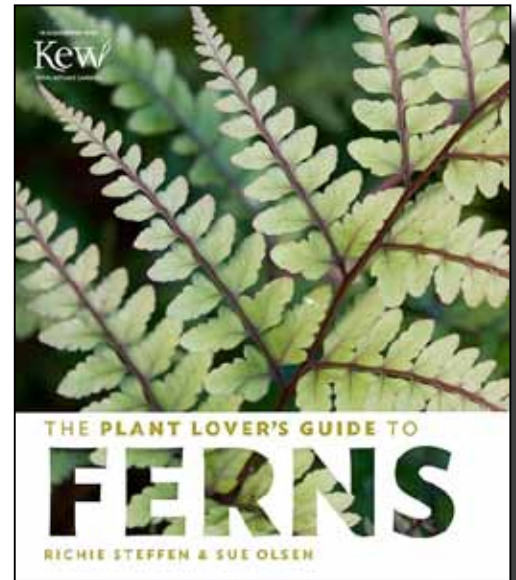
Native Plant Resources

The Plant Lover's Guide to Ferns by Richie Steffen and Sue Olsen. Timber Press, 2015. \$24.95

If you have a shade garden or some shady places in your garden, ferns become an almost indispensable part. Ferns add wonderful shapes and textures to your shade garden. We have a wonderful variety of native ferns from the cornerstone western sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*), the delightful deer fern (*Blechnum spicant*), and the graceful lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*) to the delicate oak fern (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*), maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pedantatum*) and many others. The book includes these and many more.

For the fern lover's, and I confess to being one, *The Plant Lover's Guide to Ferns* is a wonderfully useful book. It introduces you to the wide variety of ferns the can grace your garden. The book includes profiles for 134 plants, with information on growth and propagation, advice on using ferns in garden design, and lists of where to buy the plants and where to view them in public gardens. I particularly enjoyed the suggestions on different uses – ferns for color, ferns with clumping habit, spreading ground cover ferns, ferns for edging and specimen ferns. The book is very well illustrated as well as clearly written. It's a good addition to your plant library.

Richie Steffen is curator for the Miller Botanical Garden in Seattle, where he oversees the garden and its rare plant collections, and supervises the Great Plant Picks program. Sue Olsen has introduced many ferns to horticulture via her nursery, Foliage Gardens. She is editor of the *Hardy Fern Foundation Quarterly* and author of the award-winning *Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns*.



Workshops/Conferences

Cascadia Prairie-Oak Partnership 2015 Conference, October 26-29, 2015

The Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership meeting, sponsored with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will be an excellent opportunity to see the work being done to preserve our Garry oak woodlands, an effort that has been a WNPS conservation priority. Registration is currently open, with late registration beginning September 1. It will be held in Tacoma at the Courtyard Marriott. For more information see <http://cascadiaprairieoak.org/2015conference>. Note \$25 fee increase begins September 1.

Hikes and Field Trips

Chapter members continue to work on arranging hikes and 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.



Moss Workshop, November 14, 9-4 Tacoma Nature Center

While strolling in the woods, or walking around town, are you intrigued by the tiny green plants along the way? Do you wonder exactly what they are? Here is an opportunity to take a closer look at one group of small plants, the mosses. You will have a great opportunity when Lee Ellis, one of the state's experts on the mosses, will present a moss workshop. The workshop is co-sponsored by the WNPS South Sound Chapter and the Tacoma Nature Center. This workshop, designed for beginners, will help you understand the basics of moss structure and biology, how mosses differ from flowering plants, as well as basic characteristics useful for identification. In the morning we will work in the class room for about three hours. After lunch we'll take a walk around the Nature Center, and then finish up in the classroom. Enrollment is limited to twelve people; so sign up early. Cost will be \$12, for materials and lunch. If you have a hand lens, be sure to bring it. We will also have a number of microscopes for your use. We expect the class to fill quickly so sign up early. For more information, contact Bill Brookreson at b.brookreson@comcast.net. Registration will be handled through the Tacoma Nature Center's system, 253-591-6439. You will need to use the bar code # 77777.



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I'd like 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
Friend	\$50-\$99
Family	\$45
Special Friend	\$100-\$499
Club/Organization	\$65
Best Friend	\$500-\$999
Student	\$20
Sustaining Member	\$1,000
Patron	\$5,000
(Name of institution)	

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

Central Puget Sound (King & S. Snohomish Co.)	Olympic Peninsula
Central Washington (Yakima & Ellensburg)	Salal (Mt. Vernon & Skagit Valley)
Columbia Basin (Tri-Cities & Walla Walla)	San Juan Islands
Koma Kulshan (Bellingham)	South Sound (Pierce Co. & Thurston Co.)
NE Washington (Spokane)	Suksdorfia (Vancouver & Columbia Gorge)
Okanogan (Winthrop)	Wenatchee Valley
	At 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: 206-527-3210 Email: info@wnps.org
 or go to www.wnps.org/membership to pay on-line

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The view Saturday at the Native Plant Study Weekend 2015 in Whatcom County



For those who receive their copy of *The Acorn* via email, we've eliminated the mailer portion of this page and added an bonus photo.



At Botany Washington, June 5-7, in the foothills of the East Cascades in Chelan County.