



# *The Acorn*

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

*Winter/Spring 2007*

## Chapter Presentations

### **SOUTH SOUND TACOMA MEETINGS**

**When:** 7 PM – 9 PM, 2nd Wed of each month  
Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., & May

**Where:** Tacoma Nature Center  
1919 South Tyler Street; east of SH-16

### **SOUTH SOUND OLYMPIA MEETINGS**

**When:** 7 PM – 9 PM, 2nd Monday of each month  
Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., & May

**Where:** Capitol Museum Coach House  
211 21st Avenue SW – Olympia 98501

*Unless noted otherwise, attendance at meetings is free and open to the public.*

### **Monday, February 12, 2007, (Olympia) and Wednesday, February 14 (Tacoma)**

***Carri Marschner - Unique Features of Mima Prairie***

Carri Marschner is the Mima Prairie Land Steward and volunteer coordinator for The Nature Conservancy in the South Sound area. Her work focuses on restoration of areas in the Mima Prairie, the historically mounded prairie area south of Littlerock that includes Mima Mounds Natural Areas Preserve and Thurston County's Glacial Heritage Preserve. She also works with landowners in the area to control invasive weeds and re-introduce elements of prairie landscape on their private property. Carri holds a BA in Environmental Science from Colorado College and a ME in Environmental Science from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She has worked with high plains, eastern hardwood, Great Lake and Northwestern riparian systems before her current position working on our unique Northwestern prairies.

### **Monday, March 12 (Olympia) and Wednesday, March 14 (Tacoma):**

***Kevin Head – Wildflowers of Colorado's Alpine Peaks***

Active member, Kevin Head, will be leading an interactive discussion about Colorado's high elevation Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory near Crested Butte (wildflower capital of the inter-mountain west). Here he learned about research on climate change related to *Delphinium nuttallianum* in the subalpine areas similar to our Pacific Northwest. Attendees will also learn about climate impacts on Cascade and Olympic forests while enjoying Kevin's photography, which features an abundance of Colorado and Cascade mountain meadows.

### **Monday, April 9 (Olympia):**

***Dylan Fischer - Genes to Ecosystems***

*Genes to Ecosystems* is a look at how genetics of native trees influence ecosystems. From bugs to beavers, to nutrients in the soil, genes determine how it all plays out. Dylan Fischer is an Environmental Studies faculty member at The Evergreen State College. He holds a BS in Environmental Science from Oregon State University and a M.S. and a PhD in Forest Science from Northern Arizona University.

### **Wednesday, April 11 (Tacoma)**

***Linda Kunze – Riparian Plants of the Nisqually River Basin***

Linda Kunze, Stewardship Coordinator for the Nisqually Land Trust, will give a presentation on riparian vegetation within the Nisqually River Basin. Attendees will also get a look at properties owned by the Land Trust and work being done to restore riparian and upland plant communities. The Land Trust currently owns about 1,700 acres within the basin, between the Nisqually River Delta and Ashford near Mt. Rainier National Park.

## Chapter Presentations

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**Monday, May 14 (Olympia):**

**Lou Messmer – Getting to Know Plants of Western Washington**

When we meet them, do we know their names, or even who their relatives are? Can we just shrub them off, or must we needle with their petals? Lou Messmer will lead the introductions and take us on a quick tour of the family album, looking at the family tree and its branches. Lou was a full time Botany & Biology instructor and Life Sciences Chairman at Grays Harbor College for 33 years and has taught local plant identification courses there every spring quarter for 49 years! Among his many other achievements, Lou is a Fellow and founding member Washington Native Plant Society. Join us for a fun and informative meeting with lots of slides from our PNW botanical family album.

**Wednesday, May 16 (Tacoma – Presentation LOCATION to be ANNOUNCED)**

**Paul Stamets – How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World**

Paul Stamets has been studying mushrooms for more than 30 years. Having discovered and named 5 new species, he has written 6 books with his newest work, *Mycelium Running: How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World*. Paul will be discussing details from this pioneering book which describes his work with myco-filtration, myco-remediation and for use of fungi as keystone species for habitat restoration and increasing the carrying capacity of environments through soil enhancements.

### Thank You...

The Washington Native Plant Society - South Sound Chapter thanks the **Tahoma Audubon** and **Metro Parks Tacoma** for access to their fabulous Nature Center facility!

Our Tacoma meetings wouldn't be the same without it...

Members, please echo our thanks when you visit this urban watershed and *premier* education center.

## Chapter Winter/Spring Field Trips

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Michael Deckert is wowing us with his warm enthusiasm and keen ability to corral supporters of native plants. Check out this list of field events if you have any doubts, then join us on at least one of these great outings! If you have a favorite park, special place, or seasonal interest you'd like to share with others, let Michael know and we'll add it to our schedule. You can contact him at michaeldeckert@mindspring.com, or by phone at 253-922-3952. Thanks Michael!

### **3/10/2007 - Catherine Creek and Columbia Hills, Leader: Kevin Head**

Hike no more than 2 miles at three locations. Leave Olympia at 7:00 am, return to Olympia at 9-10 pm. This early trip is to see the beginning of the wildflower season with special views into the Columbia Gorge. In particular, we hope to see fields of Grass Widows and a number of plants that are endemic to the Gorge. Please contact Kevin at 360-943-375 or khead@ekit.com.

### **3/28/2007 - Cape Horn-Columbia Gorge Westside, Leader: Kevin Head**

This outing covers an 8-mile loop at 500 feet of elevation on a road. Leave Olympia at 7:00 am, and return about 9 pm. This west-side hike travels through five distinct habitats that will have early bloomers. We'll hike through a wet mature Alder forest, second growth ridge top Douglas firs, mature second growth streamside Douglas-firs, mature west-side oak forest, Basalt scree habitat, and pass under a waterfall. Contact Kevin at 360-943-375 or khead@ekit.com.

### **4/21/2007 - UW Pack Forest, Leader Tom Touse**

See spring flowers, and the effects of the underlying geology on plant communities. For more information, contact Michael Deckert at 253-922-3952 or michaeldeckert@mindspring.com.

### **4/29/2007 - Glacier Heritage County Park, Leader: Kevin Head**

Hike of 4 miles loop little elevation grade. Leave Olympia at 8:30 am and return at 7 pm. This hike will take us through meadows where early blooms include many more species than when the Camas bloom. We'll also see, Oak forests, and transitions zones of wetlands to prairies. We will get to see one of the largest oaks in Thurston County, and many wonders of the prairies. To register, contact Kevin at 360-943-375 or khead@ekit.com.

## Chapter Winter/Spring Field Trips

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### **5/12/2007 - Bald Hills Natural Area Preserve, Leader: Kevin Head**

This outing involves a hike of five miles with some difficult trail finding plus strict trail rules. Attendance is limited to no more than nine people. Leave Olympia at 6:30, and return at 6 pm. This is a hike Kevin has lead for over 20 years into the Bald Hills. Protection of a rare butterfly, however has kept him out for five years. This is among the best meadows of Thurston County where you will see wet balds that are rarely visited. Participants will study the habitat and observe the dynamics of the balds. Contact Kevin at 360-943-375 or khead@ekit.com.

### **6/1-2/2007, Overnight - Umtanum Ridge and Selah Cliffs NAP, Leader: Kevin Head**

This outing includes a hike of six miles with 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Leave Olympia at 5 pm on Friday, return to Olympia at 11 PM on Saturday. The group will sleep under the stars. In the morning, the group will hike to ridge-top meadows with massive displays of wildflowers as spring ends on the shrub-steppe. We will also explore the Selah Cliffs Natural Areas Preserve in Yakima County, where basalt cliffs support the largest accumulation of the basalt daisy. A state threatened species, the basalt daisy grows only on this stretch of the Yakima river canyon. Contact Kevin at 360-943-375 or khead@ekit.com.

### **6/9/2007 - Columbia Gorge, Leader: Larry Owens**

This outing will travel to the Columbia Gorge, where the group will be finding penstemons, among a large variety of other species particular to this unique habitat. Vehicles will need a NW Forest Pass, and carpooling is highly recommended to accommodate limited off-road parking. Reference books to review include, *Wildflowers of the Columbia Gorge*, by Russ Jolley, *Northwest Penstemons*, by Dee Strickler, and the *Key to the Genus Penstemon*, by Robin and Kenneth Lodewick, (available only by direct purchase through the authors \$9.00). Signup with Larry Owens at lawrence.owens@att.net. Trip limited to 12 participants.

### **6/20-21/2007 (Overnight) - Silverstar Mountain, Leader: Kevin Head**

This outing includes a hike of 7 miles. Leave Olympia at 5 pm on Wednesday and return ~ 9 pm on Thursday. Participants will spend Solstice night, then rise before dawn to witness the beautiful start to summer mountain wildflowers in one of the first meadows to open up in the Southern Cascades. This hike travels through meadows filled with montane plant species typically found on the valley floors as well as in subalpine habitats. To register, contact Kevin at 360-943-375 or khead@ekit.com.

### **6/23/2007 Monte Cristo NAP (Columbia Gorge/Klickitat County), Leader: Dave Wilderman**

This 1,151-acre site includes a grand fir/Douglas fir forest with dry grassland balds and shrublands. It contains representatives of most of the grand fir community types found in the southern part of the Eastern Cascade Province and includes a wide diversity of wildlife habitat. Monte Cristo NAP protects the upper half of the Dry Creek watershed. To register, please contact Michael Deckert at 253-922-3952 or michaeldeckert@mindspring.com.

### **7/7/2007 Ledbetter Point at the tip of the Long Beach Peninsula, Leader: MaryAnn Spahr**

This outing starts with beach flora along the bay, travel through a salt marsh across the tip of the peninsula, traverse of a swale between dunes, and finally goes over the dune to the ocean beach where there are opportunities to see many different plants. There is a rather rare fern, and last fall the snowy plover biologist found two plants of pink sand verbena which was thought extinct in Washington. To register, please contact Michael Deckert at 253-922-3952 or michaeldeckert@mindspring.com.

### **7/14/2007, Clearwater Bogs NAP (Jefferson County), Leader: David Wilderman**

This 504-acre area protects three sphagnum moss bog ecosystems and sheltering forested drainages and one state Sensitive plant species, Alaska plantain. These sphagnum bogs support other unusual bog plants such as Oregon anemone and Deer Cabbage, and common bog plants including Bog Laurel, Labrador Tea, Spirea and Heather. Group size is limited to 6 due to the fragile nature of the bog ecosystem. To register, please contact Michael Deckert at 253-922-3952 or michaeldeckert@mindspring.com.

# It's not too late to get your WNPS 2007 Photo Calendars!!



Photos featured for this first-ever calendar, produced by the Society, are photos of WNPS members who submitted them as contestants in a WNPS photo contest. Over 150 photos were viewed by a specially formed committee. This calendar represents the best of those photos.

This is the extraordinary cover photo of Olympic Chapter member, Don Paulson. Every month you'll find an extraordinary photo of Washington native plants to remind you of all of the special places Washington has to offer the wildflower enthusiast.

Help support the WNPS by purchasing this first of its kind publication. Calendar cost is \$10.00. Shipping costs \$2.00.

**You can save on shipping!**  
**The WNPS 2007 Wildflower Calendar will be for sale before/after South Sound Chapter Meetings.**

## WNPS Photo Calendar Order Form

Please send me the 2007 WNPS Photo Calendar:  
 Shipping costs:

# \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 2 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL ORDER FORM TO:**  
 Washington Native Plant Society  
 6310 NE 74th St., Ste. 215E  
 Seattle, WA 98115  
*(expect delivery within 2 weeks.)*

## Plant Sales

### Metro Parks Tacoma / Nature Center Plant Sale

**Saturday May 5th, 2007, 9 am-4 pm**

**1919 South Tyler, Tacoma**

Help conserve and protect our precious water resources while you provide habitat for local birds, mammals and insects. Shoppers will be able to purchase groundcovers, shrubs, trees, and more, all native to the Puget Sound trough.

For more information, contact Amanda Goetzinger at 253-591-6439.

### WPNS Central Chapter Native Plant Sale

**Saturday, May 12, 2007, 10-4**

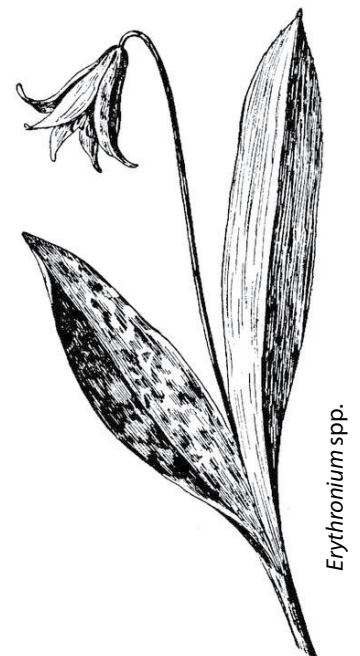
**Bellevue Botanical Garden 12001 Main Street, Bellevue 98005**

This annual sale of native plants staged by the Central Puget Sound Chapter just may be the largest and most diverse in the state: in 2006, almost 400 species were offered.

Native trees and shrubs (both bareroot and potted), wildflowers, and ground covers native to western Washington will be on sale, along with a few species from the Columbia Gorge and East of the Cascades, and a large selection of books. Native plant experts will be on hand to assist shoppers.

A map of the sale location and a list of species for sale will be posted at [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org).

Proceeds from this sale benefit the Central Puget Sound Chapter of Washington Native Plant Society and its educational programs, including the Native Plant Stewardship Program.





# Volunteer Opportunities

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## **Assist with Pierce County Rain Garden Plantings Saturday February 3rd, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

In 2006, Pierce County Water Programs initiated the re-development of parking lot planters at their Annex building in Tacoma. After removing trees that were buckling the pavement, two islands and two other areas near the building were preserved for public education displays showing native plants that can provide water quality treatment of run-off from paved surfaces.

If you'd like to participate in the planting of these islands you'll get an opportunity to learn first-hand about the plants, the planting process and the on-going educational benefits that these gardens will offer to Tacoma and Pierce County citizens.

Lunch will be served, and volunteers will be rewarded with a native plant of their choice. The only thing you'll need to bring is your curiosity and some sweat equity. Pierce County will provide the food, tools, gloves and plants. To register for this activity, please contact Timothy Lowry at [Timothy.Lowry@co.pierce.wa.us](mailto:Timothy.Lowry@co.pierce.wa.us), or by phone at (253) 798-4671.

## **Cascade Agenda Lobby Day February 8th, 9:00am – 4: 00pm Capitol Rotunda, Olympia**

Cascade Land Conservancy supporters will get a chance to meet with their legislators to bring attention to the priorities related to the Cascade Agenda.

These legislative priorities include new, innovative tools for conservation. CLC wants to create an effective, fair and vibrant Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) market that maintain working farms and forests while growing our communities. TDRs are voluntary agreements that allow landowners to maintain forest and farmland while selling their development rights to a developer where growth is more appropriate. In order to implement this new conservation tool we have to both engage communities and create a TDR program that will work for everyone.

More information and the form to register can be found at <http://www.cascadeland.org/events/cascade-agenda-lobby-day/>.

## **Environmental Lobby Day February 14 - OLYMPIA Your Valentine for the Environment**

Ever wonder how you might get government to act on important environmental concerns? Put a circle around February 14th this year and head to Olympia for Lobby Day to see how it's done. During Lobby Day you'll receive training from top environmental lobbyists, hear from legislators that are championing the *Priorities for a Healthy Washington* legislation, and secure a chance to meet face to face with your elected officials.

Join the state's leading conservation groups and hundreds of citizen lobbyists to push for the passage of the *Priorities for a Healthy Washington* legislative package. These priorities include legislation to save the Puget Sound, eliminate toxic flame retardants, promote clean air and clean fuels, and invest in Washington's parks and wildlife. And speaking of wildlife, don't forget the party in the evening! Lobby Day is an all day event hosted by People for Puget Sound.

To register, go to <http://pugetsound.org/index/lobbyday>, or contact Rein Attemann at [rattemann@pugetsound.org](mailto:rattemann@pugetsound.org) or (206) 382-7007.

## **Donate a Day to the Bay**

In 2006, volunteers donated over 1,600 hours to restoration of Tacoma's Commencement Bay. Throughout 2007, **Citizens for a Healthy Bay** is challenging residents to donate 8 hours, towards cleanup, protection and restoration of this important salmon channel, and habitat for numerous other important aquatic species. A great way to get started is to come to one of the restoration workdays that CHB hosts. If you would like to come to a workday, want to bring a group of students, scouts or family, or would like more information contact Gina Quiram by e-mail at [gquiram@healthybay.org](mailto:gquiram@healthybay.org) or (253) 383-2429.

- Thursday, Jan. 25, 9:00-3:30: Mowitch Restoration
- Saturday, February 3, 9:30-3:00: Mowitch Planting
- Saturday, March 3, 9:00-3:30: Yowkwala Restoration
- Tuesday, March 20, 9:00-3:30: Middle Waterway Restoration
- Saturday, April 7, TBA: Titlow Park Planting
- Saturday, April 28, 9:00-3:30: Middle Waterway Restoration & Planting

*Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow cycles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace.*

*May Sarton*



## Volunteer Opportunities

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*Arenaria paludicola*, marsh sandwort  
Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish  
University of Washington Press 1964

### Rare Care Program Monitors Needed

Rare Care has developed a program to train volunteers to monitor rare plant populations throughout Washington in order to assess growth trends, as well as determine population threats. Monitoring is an essential component of conservation, as it addresses the question of "What is needed to preserve species, communities, and ecological systems?" It provides for the acquisition of information to assess the status of biological populations and communities for the purpose of developing and directing management actions. This information will be gathered as a critical first step in the conservation of our rare plant species

Volunteers are the backbone of this undertaking. The program relies heavily on volunteers to collect status information on rare plant populations. The next rare plant monitoring training will take place in Seattle March 3, 2007, and in Wenatchee March 31, 2007. To apply for the program, please contact:

Rare Care Program Manager  
Center for Urban Horticulture  
Box 354115 University of Washington  
Seattle, WA 98195-4115

## Local News & Activities

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### Kruckeberg Botanic Garden Foundation Winter Lecture - free and open to the public

Thursday, January 25, 2007, 7:00 p.m.

Richmond Beach Congregational Church - Richmond Beach Rd. and 15th Ave NW, Shoreline

*The Conservation Gardener: Not as Easy as it Sounds*

By Dr. Sarah Reichard, Associate Professor, UW Botanic Gardens, University of Washington

Most gardeners are deeply concerned about the environment. However, when choosing plants for the garden, some of the issues are complicated and the science unclear. What about plants that jump the garden gate and invade wild areas? How can we tell the good guys from the bad? Are native plants always best? Why do conservation biologists discourage us from growing endangered native plants? These issues and others will be discussed. For more information: <http://www.kruckeberg.org> or call 206-542-4777.

### Wanted! Stewardship Action Photos

Your help is needed. It seems like there is an ever increasing demand for action photographs of WNPS stewardship activities. We urgently need good quality photographs of native plant stewards, both Chapter volunteers doing stewardship and Native Plant Stewards in action—people doing things with plants and other people of all ages. Do you have any real action photographs you can send us?

We plan to use selected photographs in newspaper, newsletter, and website presentations, Native Plant Appreciation Week publicity and stewardship displays and brochures. Photographs may be in color, black and white or tinted. Transparencies and prints from film and digital images will be accepted. Prints may be self-made or printed by a commercial lab. Photographer credit will be given on each photograph used.

Please send the photographs or compact discs to: Washington Native Plant Society, Central Puget Sound Chapter, 6310 NE 74th St., Suite 215E, Seattle, WA 98115 and mark "Steward Photos" on the outside of the package. Please do not send as e-mail file attachments as photographic files are generally too large to be accommodated.

## Request for Qualifications - Native Plant Stewardship Coordinator - Professional Services Contract

Responses Due: February 9, 2007 • Project Completion Date: March 1, 2008 • Contract: \$18,000 - \$21,000

The Washington Native Plant Society is requesting qualifications from interested persons to coordinate its Native Plant Stewardship Program in King County. This is a paid contract position and applications will be accepted through February 9, 2007.

### Project Description and Scope of Work

The Native Plant Stewardship Program trains community members to become native plant stewards who, in turn, use their knowledge to restore disturbed ecosystems, urban forests, and to educate others, as volunteers for the program. In its eleventh year, the 2007 program will focus on the restoration of one-acre parcels in each of six designated Seattle Parks within the Seattle Green Initiative. WNPS will coordinate this program with funding support from Seattle Parks and Recreation, King Conservation District and the Seattle Foundation, and in collaboration with the Cascade Land Conservancy.

For more information and how to apply see: [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org) or call 206-527-3210 or 1-888-288-8022.

## Free NatureMapping Program & Workshop

**Tacoma Nature Center, 1919 South Tyler Street, Tacoma**

This 2-session workshop will help attendees learn and assist in the collection and mapping of wildlife observations for the Washington State biological database and for the Pierce County Biodiversity Network. Attendees will be invited to select between a mini-bio-blitz on newly acquired park land at the edge of Crescent Lake near Gig Harbor, OR field work in an area not covered in the Lower White River bio-blitz (in the Pacific/Sumner/Auburn area).

**Session 1-Saturday, January 27, 9:00am – 4:00pm • Session 2 (date TBD)**

- Learn wildlife identification, habitat classification, and data collection techniques
- Learn mapping skills including brief overviews of monitoring tools such as: GPS, GIS, PDA
- Learn how schools, individuals, or communities can become involved with wildlife monitoring and restoration projects
- Integrate NatureMapping into state learning standards
- Become a NatureMapping Pierce County Biodiversity Network monitor

To obtain a registration form contact Michele Cardinaux, Tacoma Nature Center 253-591-6349

For more information on Nature Mapping see: <http://depts.washington.edu/natmap/>

## Tour Wildlife Sanctuary at the Engle Homestead

**May 17th, 2007 - 10:00 am**

WNPS members should look for electronic details about the garden tour being organized at the home of Stan and Helen Engle in University Place. This tour will be with the Normandy Park Garden Club and features native plant materials used in a traditional landscape; how this arrangement attracts birds and butterflies; safe and healthy gardening without the use of chemicals; and how-to insights about landscaping for water conservation.

If members and stewards would like to support this tour by serving as docents, contact Helen Engle at 253-564-3112, or by e-mail at [hengle@iinet.com](mailto:hengle@iinet.com).



# Chair Report

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Blustery New Year Greetings to All...

Although we might disagree on what is causing our latest spate of weird weather, it seems to have people wondering, thinking, and maybe making resolutions. It is my hope, along with that of many, that constructive thoughts and resolutions will create a healthier reality. But, as Herbert Hoover once said, "Words without actions are the assassins of idealism."

Individuals who have recently stepped up to the plate include **Mary Henry** – a fun and talented copy artist, who recently signed up as a new member wanting to compare the native plants of her previous homes in Minnesota and Kentucky to what we have in Western Washington. Please welcome her, and send your native plant stories and related events to her for inclusion in future issues of *The Acorn*.

We continue to benefit from behind the scenes support from numerous people, including **Lee Fellenberg**, our web manager, and operational guru when I am in need of insight. Thanks also to **Sue Summers**, whose promotional timing is perfect with the announcements of our monthly programs. At the state level, there is also **Catherine Hovanic**, the WNPS Executive Director, plus **Linda Ellis** and a cadre of volunteers that typically support the Central Chapter. Can't overlook the valuable support of Native Plant Stewards like **Michael Deckert**, **Reba Olsen**, **MaryLynn Abe** and **Susan Dowling**.

In the foreground, where I would be alone without them are neat people, like **Helen Hepp**, who comes to Olympia meetings armed with treats to share all the way from Montesano. "Family" members **Dan** and **Pat Montague** further the food supply, and as a group, we have some great meals with our presenters preceding the presentations. And the man with the purse-strings, **Kevin Head**, keeps me straight on how much money I can spend. We've got more than usual, which will allow us to pay for some special speakers in 2007. Help me thank **Lila Muller** for preparing Olympia speakers for the fall and winter series, and be sure to let us know if you have a favorite topic about which you would like to learn more. You are invited to join us!

I would be remiss not to thank all of our members, including those of you who are new in 2006. You have made your involvement in the WNPS a priority that is worth paying for. Please help me to welcome Alan Bauer, Ted Branchflower, Clinton Campbell, John Comis, Maude Conrad, Jane Ely, Pat Fetterly, Andy Fitz, Jean Garwood, Patricia Grover, Lucia Harrison, Joanne Babic, Joyce Hamrick, Judy Harpel, Susan Irelan, Kris Loetz, Ruth Lowrey, Carrie Marschner, Mark McCann, Mike McGee, Carol

Meadowcroft, Zoeb and Shera Mogri, Brent Naylor, Judy Oliver, Sharon Owen, Darlene Pate and her family, the David Peter family, Pamela Pierre, Anne Richards, Carol Smith, Ella Smith, Mary Ann Spahr, Patricia Starzyk, Katherine Wang, Jean Warren, Max Whetstine and Fonda Rae Zimmerman as new members in 2006 and 2007.

And, how about YOU? Are you ready to participate? Your **action** is critical towards keeping this and other organizations operating. We remain in need of people who will both participate in the various volunteer activities, but who might also lead them. For this reason, we have kept our volunteer survey in the newsletter. We need to know that more of you will consider and act upon the possibility of sharing your time towards the betterment of this group... and yourself along the way.

In particular, we could use help with the coordination of speakers for either Olympia and/or Tacoma. You might also notice that our Vice Chair, Volunteer Coordinator and Secretary positions are vacant at this time. After 6 years at the helm, I've been thinking about passing the torch as well. Making it up as I go has been half of my own methodology. That isn't always the ticket, but it sure beats doing nothing. And when I'm not sure what to do, I'll sometimes take a guess if a friend in the chapter or if Google isn't forthcoming with inspiration on how I might handle the situation.

As I enter the New Year, I am cognizant of what needs to be done, as well as how much ground we have already covered. The second thought is important because we might as well be holding ourselves back by not acknowledging the accomplishments, and even the mundane, that simply represents completion of day-to-day goals. This is as true for the Chapter as it is for the environment at large.

That point brings me to the notion of focus, and back to the weird weather as well. Some of us are better at focusing on the small stuff; while others are good at seeing the larger picture. Often times, however, I think we, as a society, have been trained to focus only on individual details, or person, as it may be – usually out of context with the things that are related, or are only related in subtle and indirect ways that don't surface for some period of time. With all of the important things happening in the world, both globally and locally, it's never been more important to broaden our focus. You have my new year's resolution to do this and more. Thanks so much for participating with me!

**Anna Thurston, Chair,**

253-566-3342 // a.thurston@worldnet.att.net



# WNPS – So Sound Chapter Volunteer Opportunities

WNPS members are sought to support chapter activities that make the South Sound Chapter one of the fastest growing in the state. This is a rewarding experience when you get to see a full audience at the seminars that you've helped to create, or when you get to visit with like minded people on a plant-hunting adventure.

Volunteers, like YOU, are vital to our process! Especially if you'd like to see us doing more in both Pierce and Thurston County, we need your help to pull it off. By maintaining one chapter for both locations we economize on our volunteer and our financial resources. By spreading out the load of activity among many we can make even greater in-roads towards our mission of appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education, and advocacy.



We hope you'll join us in fun work with fun people for the production of fulfilling programs and activities.  
**If you'd like to participate, please check up to five (5) items below that interest you.**

## Field Trips & Workshops

- Lead Field Trips to \_\_\_\_\_
- Plant ID or leader support
- First Aid; current as of \_\_\_\_\_
- Seed collection and processing
- Plant propagation  
(best day(s) of week \_\_\_\_\_)

## Staff a WNPS /SSC display at events

- Puyallup Fair (Spring? Fall?)
- Pt Defiance Flower & Garden Show
- Plant Sales
- As needed in Olympia? or Tacoma?

## Administrative Support

- E/Mail list management
- Grant writing & fund raising
- Meeting hospitality + clean-up
- Securing meeting venues
- Assist w/ volunteer coordination
- Meeting notes
- Website updates
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Communications & Travel

- I have a home computer & use e-mail
- Computer software I have/use includes:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I have a car and can travel as needed
- I travel by bus

## Outreach

- Share program using Power Point
- Share program w/o computer aid
- Presentations (for adults?, for kids?)
- Pursue partners/sponsors
- Securing in-kind/other donations
- Preparation of newsworthy postings
- PR - Media liaison
- Graphics for posters/letters
- Plant sale preparations
- Plant sale staffing
- Garden tour coordination
- Parade float/team effort

## Comfort level of participation

- 4 hours/year
- 8 hours/year
- 4 hours/mo.
- 8 hours/mo.
- 4 hours/week
- 8 hours/wk
- 2 hours/week
- open-ended
- I am a caretaker and would like to bring  
my \_\_\_\_\_ year old children

**Please describe training, skills and experience you have you feel may be useful to the program:**

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Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed survey to: Anna Thurston at 227 Contra Costa – Fircrest, WA 98466

*Cut it out...*

*Fill it in...*

*Fold it over...*

*Seal it shut...*

*Add a stamp...*

*Then mail it in!*

*fold along line*

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**Anna Thurston  
227 Contra Costa  
Fircrest, WA 98466**

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*fold along line*



Washington Native Plant Society

# Chapter & State Contacts

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**Presentations (Tacoma) - OPEN**

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**Volunteer Coordinator– OPEN**

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## Washington Native Plant Society South Sound Chapter

[www.southsoundchapterwnps.org](http://www.southsoundchapterwnps.org)

## Washington Native Plant Society State Chapter

[www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org) 206-527-3210



### WNPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

#### Chapter Affiliation

- Central Puget Sound (Seattle)
  - Central Washington (Yakima, Ellensburg)
  - Columbia Basin (Tri-Cities)
  - Koma Kulshan (Bellingham)
  - NE Washington (Spokane)
  - Okanogan
  - Olympic Peninsula
  - Salal (Mt Vernon, Skagit Valley)
  - San Juan Islands
  - South Sound (Olympia, Tacoma)
  - Wenatchee Valley
  - At-Large
  - Palouse (inactive)
  - Suksdorfia (inactive)
- Each membership includes affiliation with one chapter. Add \$.50 for each additional chapter.

#### WNPS POSTER

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 A beautiful 24" x 36" full-color poster featuring  
 36 native species, \$8 (members \$6)  
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- \$25 Individual Rate
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My dues: Please Sign me up! \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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Make checks payable to WNPS and mail to:  
 Washington Native Plant Society, 6310 NE 74th St., Ste 215E  
 Seattle, WA 98115



## South Sound Chapter WNPS

6220 N 50th St

Tacoma WA 98407-2119



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***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.***



*Photo by Glenn Peterson*



The smooth granite slabs above Prelude Lake (near Yellowknife, NW Territories, Canada) are partially covered by beautiful pockets of mosses, lichens, liverworts & bonsai sized trees. A tiny pale corydalis was spotted in the middle of one of these pockets. Line drawing of *Corydalis sempervirens*, Pale Corydalis (aka Rock Harlequin) obtained from <http://plants.usda.gov>.