



# *The Acorn*

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

*Fall 2009*

## **Passing the Torch – A Message to Acorn Readers By Kevin Head**

For the past seven years, Anna Thurston has served as our chapter president. Under Anna's leadership, her diligence and smarts, our chapter reached new heights. I have known her since her beginning with our chapter. I remember the day she raised her hand to say she would be willing to be chair. I asked a few members who she was. All people knew was that she was from Tacoma. The chapter had little idea what they were getting!

Under Anna's leadership, the South Sound Chapter has become the second largest in the state behind Seattle's Central Puget Sound Chapter. As chair, Anna has served on the WNPS Executive Board representing the South Sound Chapter. She has also been a contributor to *Douglasia* and has served as a member of its editorial board. Her work brought us acknowledgment from the state's leadership.

Under Anna's leadership, our meetings expanded to include the Tacoma chapter meetings. Since the beginning of the chapter, we had been meeting in Olympia. With so many people, including Mary Fries and Helen Engle, always coming down to Olympia, we decided to expand and bring the chapter's meetings to Tacoma. At first, we offered the same presentations in both Olympia and Tacoma. Although it was a huge effort to take on two separate meetings, Anna prioritized those meetings, and we now have regular meetings with separate Tacoma speakers.

Anna continued with the fine tradition of taking speakers out for dinner before the meetings. You may also fondly remember how she brought many pertinent issues to our attention. She took on the conservation issues and always went to the membership to talk about concerns, or fun things that were ahead of us.

Anna has been unsparing in her acknowledgment of others. She acknowledged all the people who helped in the meetings. I think we mostly took that for granted and shied away from being honored, but it was with Anna's insistence that we would say a few things whether it was about field trips, rebate cards, plant giveaways, or restoration opportunities. She always gave speakers a card and a small gift. These small exchanges are a reflection of the Anna's caring personality.

Last year, our chapter hosted the Native Plant Study Weekend for WNPS. It was through Anna's organization that the weekend came off so well. We had a number of organizational meetings to build a weekend that was educational and fun, and honored the South Sound's prairie ecosystem. The weekend was a great success. Many people worked hard to pull it off, but it was Anna's leadership that kept us together, focused and working hard.

Anna has also been active in outreach to the community. She organized two Native Plant Stewardship programs in Tacoma. From that amazing program she put together, Tacoma is now getting more public lands restored. The Stewardship program has brought stewards to leadership in the organization. These now play important roles in the chapter. The Native Plant Salvage Alliance is also Anna's creation. Through her efforts, many native plants have been saved from destruction and are contributing to public landscapes and restoration in the community.

Have you looked at our website and wondered how it came to be? Well this came as a result of Anna's insistence that we publicize the many things we do. She helped organize the website and get many important things on it including opportunities, meeting notes, contact information and member's photos. Our website and newsletter have Anna's fingerprints all over them.

Although she has passed the torch as chair, Anna's legacy will remain, not just reflected in the past but also helping to shape a better future for our chapter. Thank you, Anna, from all of us who continue to benefit from your work.



**Anna introduces Mark Turner at  
Native Plant Weekend 08**

# Chapter Activities

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## Vote on Bylaws Revisions at the October Meetings

Any discussion of bylaws is usually accompanied by a chorus of yawns. And yet, bylaws are important in providing the guidelines under which the chapter operates. Periodically, as times and conditions change, bylaws need to be updated so that the "rules of the road" are clear. WNPS South Sound Chapter bylaws were adopted in 1977 and updated in 2000. Go to [http://wnps.org/about\\_wnps/administration/documents/SouthSoundChapterBylaws\\_03\\_01\\_2000.pdf](http://wnps.org/about_wnps/administration/documents/SouthSoundChapterBylaws_03_01_2000.pdf) to view the current bylaws; we have not printed them in the newsletter in consideration of space.

Several parts of the current bylaws do not reflect how the chapter actually operates. For example, the current bylaws do not reflect the dual meetings, in Tacoma and Olympia, which we have held for several years. Also, the current bylaws schedule an election for officers at the June meeting, but we do not hold a June meeting. The proposed revisions allow for an election in October and allow for mailed or e-mail ballots. The proposed revisions also more clearly define and clarify the role of the executive board in conducting the business of the chapter.

The proposed revisions were worked out by an ad hoc Bylaws Committee, chosen by the executive board, of Reba Olsen, Lee Fellenberg and Bill Brookreson and are published here for your consideration and, we hope, approval at the October meetings.

### Article I. Purpose

The purpose of the South Sound Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society (WNPS) is to promote the appreciation, conservation and study of the native plants of Washington State and to educate the public on the value of our native flora and its habitat.

### Article II. Territory

Chapter membership is available to anyone who selects affiliation with the chapter and pays for the affiliation, and whose dues to WNPS are current.

### Article III. Chapter Meetings and Membership

#### Section 1. Eligibility

Any person, family, or group who is a member of WNPS is eligible for chapter membership.

#### Section 2. Right to Vote

Each membership entitles the person, family, or group to one (1) vote on any question requiring a vote of the membership of the chapter. The right to vote of a family or group shall be exercised by the individual who is designated by the family or group as its official delegate.

#### Section 3. Quorum

The presence of five percent (5%) of the members at a chapter meeting constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. Each decision made by a simple majority of the members at a meeting where a quorum is present is a binding act of the members. When monthly meetings are held in both Pierce and Thurston counties, the total attendance at the two meetings shall be used to determine if a quorum was present and whether an action taken is binding.

#### Section 4. Meetings

Meetings of the general membership normally

are held monthly except June through September. Special meetings may be called by the chair upon resolution of the executive board.

### Section 5. Notification of Meetings

Notification of meetings shall be given to each member at least seven (7) days before any membership meeting. Publication of the meeting schedule in the chapter newsletter, provided that such newsletter is sent at least seven (7) days prior to a scheduled meeting, shall be considered adequate notification.

### Section 6. Termination of Membership and Distribution of Assets

Termination of membership and distribution of assets shall be as specified by the policies and procedures of WNPS.

### Article IV. Dues and Members in Good Standing

Dues shall be determined and paid as specified by the WNPS state organization. Members in good standing are those whose dues are current.

### Article V. Officers of the Chapter and Governance

#### Section 1. Names and Qualifications of Officers

Officers of the chapter are: chair, vice chair(s), secretary and treasurer. An officer must be a member in good standing of WNPS and of the chapter.

#### Section 2. Chapter Executive Board

The officers, chairs of standing committees, and such others persons as may be specifically designated in these bylaws shall constitute the executive board of the chapter and shall be the governing body of the chapter. The responsibilities of the executive board shall include, but not limited to

(Article V Section 2 continued on the next page.)

1. Approval of the chapter budget and expenditures
2. Approval of all agreements entered into by or on behalf of the chapter
3. Preparation and approval of reports to the membership
4. Development of policies and procedures for activities

### **Section 3. Election of Officers**

Nominations for chapter officers shall be presented to the membership in September of each calendar year. Officers are elected by the membership in October of each calendar year. Officers shall serve for one (1) year and may succeed themselves. Voting may be carried out by written and/or electronic ballots.

### **Section 4. Absences and Vacancies**

In the case of resignation, or other inability or unwillingness to serve, or failure to carry out the duties as determined by a majority of the executive board, the executive board may appoint a replacement for an officer of the chapter who shall serve the balance of that officer's term, except that the vice chair shall assume the office of chair and a new vice chair shall be appointed to fill the vice chair vacancy.

### **Section 5. Expenditures of Chapter Funds**

Decisions requiring expenditures in excess of \$200 must be approved by a majority of the executive board. Such approval may be in the form of a motion at a meeting of the executive board or by telephone or e-mail communications. The treasurer shall maintain a record of all such approvals.

### **Section 6. Duties of the Chair**

The duties of the chair shall include, but not be limited to

1. Presiding over South Sound Chapter and executive board meetings
2. Appointing chairs and such members of standing and ad hoc committees as he/she deems necessary
3. Representing the chapter on the WNPS Board of Directors
4. Signing documents and agreements, as by the executive board, on behalf of the chapter
5. Preparing an annual report to the executive board, the chapter members, and the WNPS Board of Directors
6. Representing the chapter with other organizations and the public
7. Maintaining a copy of the current rules of order

being used by the executive board

8. Such other duties and responsibilities as may be determined by the executive board

### **Section 7. Duties of the Vice Chair(s)**

The chapter may elect to have two vice chairs. In the case when two vice-chairs are elected, one shall represent members attending Pierce County meetings and one shall represent members attending Thurston County meetings. In the event there are two vice chairs, one shall be designated first vice chair for purposes of succession in case of a vacancy in the chair position. The position of first vice chair shall alternate between the two counties beginning with Thurston County being designated first vice chair.

The vice chairs(s) shall

1. Carry out the duties of the chair in the absence of the chair
2. Serve as an ex officio member of standing committees
3. Assume such other duties as may be determined by the executive committee

### **Section 8. Duties of the Secretary**

The secretary shall keep the minutes of all business meetings of the chapter and executive board and distribute them to the executive board for general distribution to members and interested parties.

### **Section 9. Duties of the Treasurer**

The treasurer shall

1. Keep the financial records of the chapter
2. Maintain the chapter bank account
3. Disburse funds as authorized by the executive board or membership
4. Prepare at the end of each fiscal year an annual status report of the chapter's financial activities and financial status for the WNPS Board of Directors and for the chapter membership

## **Article VI. Chairs of Standing Committees and Other Designated Members of the Executive Board**

### **Section 1. Committees: Standing and Ad hoc**

The chair, with the approval of the executive board, may establish standing or ad hoc committees to carry out specific functions or activities on behalf of the membership. All chairs of standing committees are voting members of the executive board and serve until replaced. Committee chairs may add such additional members to their respective committees as are needed to carry out the committee's functions. An individual may assume more than one role.

## **Section 2. Chapter Botanist**

The chapter botanist

1. Acts as a resource on botanical knowledge to the chapter members
2. Conducts workshops and/or field trips on plant identification, emphasizing native plants and their habitats
3. Contributes articles to the chapter newsletter
4. Proposes projects related to native plants to the Executive Board and/or the membership.

## **Section 3. Conservation Committee Chair**

The chair of the conservation committee

1. Researches and informs members about conservation issues related to native plants and native plant habitats
2. Contributes articles to the chapter newsletter
3. Works with other conservation organizations and government agencies to promote and protect native plants and habitats
4. Coordinates with the WNPS State Conservation Committee
5. Represents the chapter on conservation issues in public forums

## **Section 4. Field Trip Committee Chair**

The chair of the field trip committee

1. Coordinates native plant appreciation hikes and field trips for a wide range of interests and abilities
2. Assists field trip leaders to maintain the standards of the WNPS's "Guidelines for Field Trip Leaders"
3. Contributes articles to the chapter newsletter
4. Publicizes upcoming field trips through the newsletter, through the website, at chapter meetings and other appropriate venues

## **Section 5. The Immediate Past Chair**

The immediate past chair of the chapter

1. Provides continuity and support for the incoming officers
2. Serves on the executive board

## **Section 6. Editorial Committee Chair**

The chair of editorial committee is the newsletter editor, who

1. Solicits and edits articles and announcements for the chapter newsletter
2. Coordinates website posting, printing and mailing of the newsletter, as appropriate, to all members
3. With the advice and assistance of the editorial committee, recommends policies on Chapter publications to the Executive Board

## **Section 7. Publicity Committee Chair**

The chair of the publicity committee

1. Notifies members and the editor of *Douglasia* of upcoming chapter meetings
2. Prepares information on chapter activities for the news media
3. Coordinates information on special activities such as WNPS Study Weekends or WNPS Native Plant Appreciation Week
4. Prepares other outreach information at the request of the executive board

## **Section 8. Volunteer Committee Chair**

The volunteer committee chair

1. Works with the executive board to increase member participation in activities that promote the mission of the society
2. Prepares articles for the chapter newsletter
3. Promotes recognition of chapter volunteers and their activities

## **Section 9. Chapter Web Manager**

The web manager

1. Maintains the chapter's internet site
2. Posts announcements and newsletters to the chapter internet site
3. Maintains the electronic records with the direction of the executive board
4. Provides advice to the executive committee on effective use of the internet and electronic media

## **Article VII. Records**

Each chapter officer or chair of a committee maintains and shall deliver all records of the office or chair position to the succeeding office holder upon leaving their position.

## **Article VIII Rules of Order**

The chapter shall govern all meetings by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order or any special rules of order and bylaws that the executive board may adopt.

## **Article IX Amendments**

Changes to these bylaws may be recommended by members of the chapter or by the executive board. An amendment shall be approved by a simple majority of the voting membership of the chapter.

## **Article X. Savings Clause**

Should any provision of these bylaws be found contrary to the rules, bylaws or procedures of the Board of Directors of the Washington Native Plant Society, the state's bylaws and procedures shall prevail.



# Restoration Projects Report

## Woodland Greenway Trail, Olympia

The Olympia project is about half an acre of restoration along the Woodland Trail. It consists of removing invasives, primarily Himalayan blackberry and a small amount of Scot's broom, planting native plants, and cooperating on a small trail project in that part of the restoration. The project is a cooperative effort with the Woodland Greenway Trail Association, Olympia Parks and the Department of Transportation. The site is located between Boulevard Road and Dayton Street along the trail. Most of the work to date has been removal of the blackberry and preparation for planting that will take place in the fall to give plants the best chance of survival. As of August, about half of the site has been cleared. We have both weekday (Thursday) and weekend (Saturday) opportunities to participate. Tentatively, Thursday work parties are scheduled for September 10 & 24 and October 8 & 22. Saturday work parties are tentatively scheduled for September 12 and October 24. More volunteers are always needed! For more information or to get on the e-mail list, contact Bill Brookreson at 253-564-1137 or [b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net).



## Tacoma Stewardship Projects

In the last issue we wrote about the Natural Area Stewards Training that was completed in March and the five restoration projects that they have undertaken to fulfill their one hundred hour public service commitment to program funders and WNPS. As spring turned to summer, fifteen of this year's stewards embarked to carry out restoration activities throughout Tacoma.



Steward Cyndy Dillon at Nature Center

**1. Tacoma Nature Center (TNC).** Members of the chapter have joined Cyndy Dillon in removing invasive trees, blackberry and ivy in several Friday morning work parties at TNC. Because of issues around the critical areas ordinance, invasive removal has been limited to the hillside 200 feet above Snake Lake. The stewards' team has also hosted scout groups for invasive removal. To assist in the upcoming projects, contact Cyndy at [cpdillongh@comcast.net](mailto:cpdillongh@comcast.net) or get on the restoration e-mail list.

**2. Tacoma Community College/Kia Kaha Wetland.** This site, which has had energy invested by TCC students, will receive ongoing

invasive removal and native plant replanting through the efforts of at one steward (since two of this site's team members have moved away from Tacoma). Current effort include site mapping as a basis for the development of a habitat restoration plan.

**3. Oak Tree Park.** In league with the Tacoma Rotary Club #8, Tacoma Goodwill, and students at the Tacoma School of the Arts, three stewards working at Oak Tree Park have hosted two publicly advertised events to pursue invasive removal and the spreading of wood chip mulch. In addition to this, Oak Tree stewards have also initiated a general site assessment.

**4. Meadow Park Golf Course.** This public golf course has sought to reduce costs while expanding its outreach to potential members by implementing a site and maintenance review under the Audubon International program. Three stewards working here are developing plans for the renovation of prairie habitat between greens with the hopes of creating a mini-prairie demonstration that highlights locally salvaged native plants and supports bird and other wildlife.

**5. First Creek.** This urban watershed, once a gathering center for the Puyallup Tribe and a vital salmon-bearing stream, was converted to a storm sewer system in the mid-1900's. Despite setbacks experienced with the realization that much of the area was off limits to restoration because of a wetland delineation, Natural Area Stewards have still been able to implement two work parties and a community tour of the watershed. They also have a strong draft Project Management Plan under development. For more information visit [firstcreekwatershed.blogspot.com](http://firstcreekwatershed.blogspot.com).

# South Sound Chapter Meeting Calendar

## October 2009– January 2010

### Meeting Times and Locations:

We are very pleased to offer another series of interesting and educational speakers for our fall meetings. Chapter gatherings are normally scheduled on the second Monday of each month in Olympia and the second Wednesday in Tacoma and are held from 7–9 p.m. in October 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, 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. All meetings are free and open to the public.

### Monday, October 12 (Olympia), Justin Hellier “Ecological Restoration in Olympia’s Urban Forest”

Urban natural areas clean our air, sequester carbon from the atmosphere, absorb and filter storm water runoff, provide habitat for native birds and wildlife, and offer nature in our neighborhoods. But after a generation of invasion by aggressive non-native plants like English ivy, our urban forests are threatened. Throughout the Northwest, community groups, non-profit organizations and public agencies are working together to restore urban natural areas. From Portland to Tacoma, citizens are pulling on gloves, picking up shovels and planting trees to sustain the urban forest.

Tall Trees Youth Stewardship Project is a one-year pilot project to engage Olympia’s young people, community groups and city government in ecological restoration of the urban forest. Justin Hellier, the Tall Trees Project Coordinator, will report on the restoration demonstration projects in the Garfield Nature Trail and the Evergreen State College forest. He’ll also speak about efforts to train and empower neighborhood groups to steward their local green space, and to encourage city staff and elected officials to prioritize ecological restoration.

### Wednesday, October 14 (Tacoma), Tim McNulty “Olympic National Park: A History”

Tim McNulty will discuss and read from his award-winning book, *Olympic National Park, A Natural History* in the University of Puget Sound’s Rausch Auditorium. In this thoroughly revised edition, Tim McNulty returns his gaze to the Olympic National Park: 1,400 square miles of rugged mountains and wilderness in the heart of the Olympic Peninsula. McNulty brings together our past and future by examining the effects of global warming and its rapid changes throughout the region, alongside current archaeological discoveries that shed new light on the early people of the peninsula, McNulty brings together our past and future. McNulty also tells the stories of the Olympic National Park’s native plant and animal populations. From marmots and black bears to the prospect of reintroducing wolves, he then looks at the resurgence of bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and the burgeoning sea otter populations rejuvenating the coastal ecosystems. Finally, the restoration of the Elwha River, the removal of salmon-blocking dams, and salmon recovery efforts across the peninsula are bringing wildlife back to the wilderness.

Tim McNulty is a poet, nature writer and conservationist who has long been active in Northwest literary and environmental communities. His poems are published in journals and anthologies in the U.S. and abroad; his essays and articles on forests, wildlife and conservation have appeared in numerous anthologies, magazines and newspapers. Tim’s books of poetry include: *In Blue Mountain Dusk*, *Through High Still Air*, *Cloud Studies*, and *Some Ducks*. He is the author of ten books of natural history, including *Olympic National Park: A Natural History*, which won a Governor’s Writers Award and Washington’s Mount Rainier National Park, which won a National Outdoor Book Award. Tim is also author of *Washington’s Wild Rivers: The Unfinished Work* and *The Art of Nature*. He lives with his family in the foothills of Washington’s Olympic Mountains. Tim will have copies of his book for sale at the meeting.

**NOTE: This meeting will be held at the Rausch Auditorium located in McIntyre Hall room 003, on N. 15th St. at N. Alder St., on the campus of the University of Puget Sound.**

October 2009

**Meetings,  
continued...**

**Monday, November 9 (Olympia), Richard Ramsden  
"Mountain Flora of Washington State"**

Richard's presentation will focus on some of the showy flowering plants found in the Olympic, Wenatchee and Cascade ranges of Washington. At high elevation, species unique to a small area grow side-by-side with species whose range extends to the arctic, Siberia and the Alps. Where and when to see different species and in which habitats will be discussed. A final segment will offer suggestions on how to cultivate mountain species in an urban garden.

Richard is a long time member of WNPS Central Puget Sound Chapter, the North American Rock Gardening Society Northwest Chapter, and a volunteer for Rare Care, the rare plant monitoring program based at the University of Washington. His photos of local flora have been included in several local publications including Northwest Magazine and Washington Trails, as well as *Douglasia*.

November 2009

**Wednesday, November 11 (Tacoma), Doris Taggart  
"The Columbia River Gorge: A Botanical Treasure"**

The Columbia River Gorge is the only sea-level break in the Cascade Mountains. As these mountains were pushed up as high as 4,000 feet on either side of the river, the waters of the Columbia cut down and formed a deep slash for about 75 miles. Average precipitation varies from 75 inches in the west that supports temperate rain forest decreasing to 12 inches east of Hood River in the arid grasslands. These variations in precipitation and elevation lead to micro-climates and a great diversity of plant species, with several endemics, some rare and some usually found only at alpine elevations. Friends of the Columbia River Gorge ([www.gorgefriends.org](http://www.gorgefriends.org)) founded in 1980 by Nancy Russell, works to ensure that this unique, wild and beautiful Gorge remains an unspoiled treasure for future generations. Congress later passed the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area Act protecting the gorge landscapes, the forests, the cliffs, the native plants that inspired Nancy, and countless others, to dedicate their lives to protecting the CRG and in March 2009, the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act which designated two million acres of new wilderness nationwide, 206,000 acres for the CRG.

Doris Taggart is a geographer, including in her detailed studies botany, geology, astronomy, climate and landforms. She has hiked the CRG trails in all seasons as well as the mountains of the world with the Alpine Garden Society of Britain (AGS), and is active with the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS), botanizing and photographing native plants. She has been a member of the WNPS for many years.

December 2009

**Wednesday, December 9 (Tacoma)  
Holiday Celebration and Member Presentations**

Come to the Nature Center and join us in the Tacoma holiday celebration. Bring a favorite hors d'oeuvre to share. Drinks will be furnished. The meeting will feature short presentations by our members about their projects and activities from the past year.

**Monday, December 14 (Olympia),  
Holiday Celebration and Member Presentations**

Come to the Capitol Museum Coach House and join us in the Olympia holiday celebration. Bring a favorite hors d'oeuvre to share. Drinks will be furnished. The meeting will feature short presentations by our members about their projects and activities from the past year.

January 2010

**Monday, January 11 (Olympia), Dave Peter  
"A Seven Hundred Year Fire History of Northwestern Washington"**

Northwestern Washington has experienced million-plus acre fires at multiple times in the past, most recently in the late 1600s and early 1700s. These very hot, fast moving crown fires killed huge areas of forest. Since Douglas-fir is a principle invader of burned over areas, these fires are responsible for the vast Douglas-fir resource upon which our timber industry is based. The causes of these fires are not known, but they certainly burned under highly unusual and infrequent weather patterns—and yet, these patterns have

## Meetings, concluded...

January 2010

apparently been repeated a number of times. The burn patterns suggest that the fires burned under high northeast winds. The last two and possibly three burning periods are associated with the "Little Ice Age" which was a cooler and sometimes drier time period. Each of the last three burning periods is also associated with sunspot minima, although the mechanistic relationship of sunspots to climatic variations is not known. Western Washington has also experienced a strong influence of anthropogenic fire as a result of Indian burning. Since many foods grow better in sunny environments, and the northwest is fundamentally a forested ecosystem, peoples of this area learned early on that fire could be used to enhance production of many foods, most notably camas, oak acorns and various berries. These low intensity and frequently repeated fires had a very different effect on vegetation than the large forest fires also experienced in the area. The resulting patchwork of prairies among the forests resulted in greatly enhanced biodiversity. However, because of the tendency of these areas to grow back into forests, much of this diversity is now at risk.

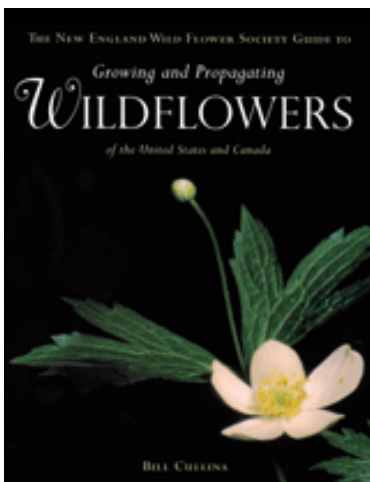
Since 1999, David Peter has been an Ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station in Olympia. Prior to that, he was an ecologist with the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest. David has worked on a number of fascinating topics including the fire history of Western Washington, invasive plant ecology, historical ecology including anthropogenic influences and invasive plant ecology.

### **Wednesday, January 13 (Tacoma), Clay Antieau "Restoring the Cedar River Municipal Watershed"**

The 95,000-acre Cedar River Watershed in Washington's Cascade Mountains gathers and stores rain and snowmelt for more than 1.4 million people in the greater Seattle area. Each summer day, more than 100 million gallons of water are delivered from the uninhabited, protected boundaries of this watershed with minimal treatment and at low cost. Seattle Public Utilities manages the watershed to provide clean, reliable, and inexpensive water as well as high quality habitat for plants and wildlife. This presentation explores the watershed's ecosystems, its long history of human use, and the City of Seattle's current effort to restore damages caused by timber harvest, road building and urban development over the last 150 years. Come hear about passage facilities that now allow chinook salmon, steelhead, and coho salmon access to Cedar River habitat that had been off-limits for more than 100 years!

Clay is a botanist, senior watershed planner, and environmental scientist for Seattle Public Utilities. He has been a member of the WNPS since 1982 and has held leadership roles in the WNPS state organization and in the Central Puget Sound Chapter. Clay is well-known for his native plant lectures, field trips and course offerings.

## **The New England Wild Flower Society Guide to Growing and Propagating Wildflowers of the United States and Canada by William Cullina, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 2003**



Anyone with a passion for wildflowers will find this book interesting, informative and enjoyable. This is a most complete and authoritative guide to North American wildflowers offering clear and detailed information on growing and propagating 200 genera and 1,000 species of plants. No matter your level of interest, as reviews agree, it will inform and inspire. Cullina provides information on which parts of the continent the plants are found in the wild, and where and how to succeed with them in your own garden. Cullina believes that a garden is not just an extension of our houses but a habitat we share with plants and the animals that depend on them for food and shelter. He writes: "There is value in preserving wilderness, but there is equal value in restoring the suburbs and cities where most of us live to something closer to balance -- for our children's sake and the sake of all the other species around us. Growing wildflowers is not only fun and easy, it fosters a genuine connection with the region you live in." William Cullina is the nursery manager and propagator for the New England Wild Flower Society. The real surprise is how well Pacific Northwest plants are covered. The book retails for \$40, but an excellent discount is available through [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).



### **Voters and Volunteers are Vital By Reba Olsen**

The level of vitality of the Washington Native Plant Society and our South Sound Chapter is a direct reflection of the participation of the members in taking on the volunteer tasks that are needed. We, the members, give life and direction to our chapter. A ballot will come to you in email or postal mail in October to help select officers for the chapter. One of the key roles you can play is to serve as a board member or officer.

The current bylaws for the South Sound Chapter state that the governing body of the chapter, which consists of the officers, is elected annually by the membership. Officers will serve for one year and may succeed themselves. The officers that will be on the ballot for voting in October 2009 will be chair, a vice chair for Olympia area, a vice chair for Tacoma area, secretary and treasurer. An ad hoc nominating committee will prepare names of volunteers to be submitted on the ballot for the positions. We need to elect a candidate for each position.

Who may vote? Any current member is entitled to a vote. The expiration date of your membership is on the back cover of your copy of *Douglasia*. Each membership entitles the person, family, or group to one vote. The right to vote of a family or group will be exercised by the individual who is designated by the family or group as its official delegate. On what else will members be voting? Changes to the bylaws will be submitted for approval by a simple majority.

You can renew your membership at [wnps.org](http://wnps.org): click on "membership" on the first page, and under "how to join," click on "membership form" in the first sentence; you can pay online by PayPal or complete the form and send it in with your check.

Who can help? Volunteers are appreciated! To quote Betty Reese, "If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito." We can use you, whether or not you are knowledgeable about native plants. We need volunteers to be on the election ballot and to participate on SSC's Executive Board, to coordinate field trips, to coordinate volunteers, to be the chapter's botanist (if you are a botanist) and to serve on committees. Also, we need volunteers for one-time tasks: examples are writing a grant request, writing an article for *The Acorn*, leading or assisting with a field trip, leading or assisting with a restoration event, and setting up or manning a booth at a public event. To quote Anne Frank, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

If you would like to nominate someone or yourself for a position or volunteer for the chapter, or if you have any questions, please contact Chair Reba Olsen (who will not be on the ballot) at [reba.so@comcast.net](mailto:reba.so@comcast.net), 253-531-8652, 13015 19th Av. Ct. S., Parkland WA 98444.

### **The Challenge of Protecting Rare Plants in Washington, A Discussion By Bill Brookreson**

How to protect rare plants in Washington State is an ongoing issue for native plant enthusiasts. Threatened and endangered plants may be classified by federal authorities under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, although the protection afforded plants is significantly less than that accorded to animal species. Federally-listed plants on federal lands are relatively well protected by agency policy driven by the law. The protection does not extend to state threatened, sensitive and endangered (TSE Species). The lack of resources for survey and ongoing monitoring makes this less than a complete success.

The Natural Heritage Program within the Department of Natural Resources surveys and classifies TSE plants under state authority. On state owned lands, the process is even less complete in spite of the efforts by the Natural Heritage Program and the dedicated botanists in the other land managing agencies. The resources are simply not there to carry out the inventory needed. In 2009, the Natural Heritage Program staff was cut until now there is only one rare plant botanist, and DNR alone holds 5.6 million acres of public lands. There are volunteers that help, but the scope of the task is huge.

On privately owned lands, rare plants essentially have no protection. The reasons are not hard to fathom. Foremost since, with a few exceptions, the plants on private lands have historically been considered a part of the property. (The tie of the plant to the land serves the public in that landowners are responsible for control of noxious weeds on their properties.) There are some obvious restrictions that have been placed on the ability to manage flora under the state's critical areas ordinances, tree ordinances in some cities, and when they are part of critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. However, these generally are not specific to species but rather to habitats and do not require inventory. The political and legal battles over "regulatory takings" make expansion of a full blown Endangered Species Act to cover plants even more difficult.

On private lands, the only real hope at present is in education and incentives for voluntary preservation. Please share with Bill Brookreson ([b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net); 253-564-1137) any ideas and suggestions you have so that this discussion can continue in the next newsletter.



## Plant and Seed Sales

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### Central Puget Sound Chapter's Fall Native Bulb, Seed and Plant Sale Saturday, October 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Central Puget Sound Chapter will hold its annual fall Native Bulb, Seed, and Plant Sale in Building 30 at Magnuson Park, 6310 NE 74th Street, Seattle. The fall sale features camas and other lily bulbs as well as a big selection of native seeds, trees, shrubs, other plants and native plant books. The list of species will be posted at [www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org). Because not all plant orders can be filled by our suppliers, the list is updated right up to the time of the sale. Come early for the best selection!

Magnuson Park is located on Sand Point Way. From I-5 north bound take the WA-520 east bound; exit at Montlake, left towards University of Washington; go straight into NE 45th which turns into Sand Point Way NE. Magnuson park is approximately two miles along Sand Point Way.

### Chase Garden Fall Plant Sale Sat. Sept 12 and Sun. Sept 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

16015 – 264th St E. Orting, WA. Native wildflowers, ferns, cyclamen and more. Multiple vendors. New this year: Stoneware pots and birdbath saucers while supplies last. Carpooling is recommended. Free admission to the garden. 206-242-4040. [www.chasegarden.org](http://www.chasegarden.org)

## Field Trips

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### A Federation Forest Walk Saturday, October 10

Spring, summer or fall, one of the most delightful places for a plant person to visit is the Federation Forest State Park. Come join Bill Brookreson to do a fall walk along the Fred Cleator Interpretive Trails. We will begin with an introduction from park staff to Federation Forest. The two trails, which start and end at the interpretive center, will take us through virgin forests, wetlands and meadows. The trails, with a few diversions, will total about two miles and easy hiking. The interpretive center has an outstanding display and a well-signed native garden. The trails also have excellent informational signage. The walk is suitable for families. We have an excellent plant list for the more serious botanists, and we will furnish cookies for all levels of botanist.

We will depart from the Park and Ride on South Tacoma Way, just south of the Hwy 512 intersection at 9 a.m. and car pool as much as possible. Federation Forest is about a one hour ride. Those who would rather go singly car meet us at the interpretive center about 10 a.m. The hike should take about two hours and we will have a picnic at the end before returning. Bring a picnic lunch, a beverage, your plant books, and clothing appropriate to the weather.

To drive to Federation Forest, take the Hwy 167 exit north of Tacoma off I-5. After about nine miles, take the Hwy 410 exit towards Bonney Lake and Enumclaw, Federation Forest is about another 32 miles.

## Workshops and Conferences

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### Mason County Conservation District's Native Plant Workshop Series

The Mason County Conservation District, with support from a grant by the department of Ecology, will continue its Native Plant Workshop series with three additional programs of interest to native plant enthusiasts:

**Ethnobotany: The Cultural History of Native Plants**, September 17, 6-8:30 p.m. Rediscover local plants by learning about their importance to the native people of the South Sound, as well as some of their traditional uses.

**Landscaping with Native Plants**, October 15, 6-8:30 p.m. Plan your spring and summer native plant garden now! Learn how to introduce edible native plants, and natives for wildlife and year-round color, as well as local sources for plants.

**A Native Plant Potlatch**, December 5, 12-2 p.m. Get ready for the holidays in the northwest! Learn how to make holiday decorations and gifts from the plants in your backyard.

Pre-registration is required. To register for a workshop or for more information, contact Stephanie Bishop at 360-427-9436, ext. 13 or [Stephanie@masoncd.org](mailto:Stephanie@masoncd.org).



Federation Forest Trail

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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

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#### 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 \$.00 for each additional chapter.

#### WNPS POSTER

"Wildflowers Across Washington"  
 A beautiful 24" x 36" full-color poster featuring 36 native species, \$8 (members \$6)  
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Make checks payable to WNPS and mail to:  
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**South Sound Chapter WNPS**

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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.***

## **Election of Chapter officers – A New Procedure**

**In an attempt to broaden participation in the process, the proposed bylaws provide for e-mail or paper voting for the chapter officer positions. If the proposed bylaws are accepted, the following procedure will be used:**

**At the October chapter meetings, the proposed slate of officers will be presented by the nominations committee and additional nominations solicited.**

**By October 20, an e-mail ballot will be sent to all members for whom we have current email addresses and paper ballot to those without current email addresses on file. If you have not received a ballot by October 25, contact Reba Olsen at [reba.sue@comcast.net](mailto:reba.sue@comcast.net)**

**Ballots must be received no later than November 1 to be counted.**

**Results will be announced at the November meetings.**

