
THE NATIVE PLANT PRESS

The Newsletter of the Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS

Vol 18, No 3, May 2017

Chapter Meeting
Thursday, May 4 at 7:30 PM
Center for Urban Horticulture*

Your presence is requested

Volunteers for the April 29 Plant Sale at
Mercerdale Park are still needed.

For a complete list of opportunities, see

<http://www.wnps.org/cps/plantsale>

or email Rita Moore at rita.a.moore@gmail.com.

Program: A Yankee Botanist's Search for New Zealand Bush

By Linda Ann Vorobik

This botanical travelogue begins on the North Island of New Zealand, and extends to the southernmost tip of the South Island, providing examples of many different habitats and species of the New Zealand flora. Linda's particular interest is the ferns, and New Zealand doesn't disappoint: from delicate filmy ferns through magnificent tree ferns. Linda compares the New Zealand flora to that of our own west coast and discusses the native vegetation versus non-native, as well as other aspects of this delightful country.

Linda Ann Vorobik, PhD botanist, editor, and illustrator of numerous botanical publications has lived on Lopez Island since 1994, but before that spent summers and weekends at her beloved family home on Lopez.

Linda went to school in north Seattle, did her undergraduate work at Western Washington University (then a College), and received her PhD from the University of Oregon. Both of her degrees are in Biology: Linda is enthralled by the great diversity of plants in our wonderful world.

She conducts field research throughout the west, and teaches at the Siskiyou Field Institute in SW Oregon, the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden, at Hawaii's South Kona Society for Education and the Arts, and at other locations.

Linda has over 25 years of botanical experience, and is principal illustrator of, for example, *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*, *The Flora of Santa Cruz Island*, and is currently working on drawings for *The Flora of Santa Catalina Island*. For more information, please visit her website, www.VorobikBotanicalArt.com.

Linda will be bringing some of her botanically inspired art work which will be available for purchase. She donates 35% of any proceeds back to the Chapter!

Program produced by Shelley Evans and Sharon Baker

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Up and Coming Programs

BBG indicates Bellevue Botanical Garden.

CUH indicates the Center for Urban Horticulture.

MTR indicates Mountaineers Headquarters.

MTR June 1, 2017: David Giblin speaking on "Revising *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*-What did we Learn and What's Next?"

BBG June 13, 2017 Nancy Kartes, manager, Bellevue Botanical Garden will discuss "Coming of Age: Bellevue Botanical Garden at 25" plus give a tour of future project sites.

Native Plant Identification Workshop

By Nelson Salisbury, Chapter Botanist
(offered only at Westside Meetings)

A free plant identification workshop is offered before each Westside Chapter meeting at 6:00 PM. While the workshop is oriented primarily toward beginners, anyone who wants to work on improving keying skills or their familiarity with the northwest flora is welcome. Feel free to bring samples of unknown plants in for identification. We will have plenty of material and tools if you come empty-handed.

Meeting Locations

To be sure you don't miss a meeting, watch the Native Plant Press closely to find out when and where we are meeting each month. In addition, we will have meeting dates and locations listed on our website.

List of 2017 Meeting Locations

May 4 Center for Urban Horticulture

June 1 Mountaineers Headquarters

June 13 Bellevue Botanical Garden

Sept 7 Mountaineers Headquarters

Oct 10 Bellevue Botanical Garden

Nov 2 Mountaineers Headquarters

Change in West Side Meeting Times

We've had requests to change the start time of our programs on the west side from 7:30pm to 7pm. At the Feb 2 meeting we discussed this with the

attendees, who voted to change the time to 7pm. **This change will not go into effect until our first fall meeting on September 7.**

Board Reports

Message from the Co-Chair

By Chrys Bertolotto

Spring is busting out all around us and it is no different in our chapter! Following is a snapshot of what is going on with the chapter:

Welcome to new Board Members: Stuart Hougen has become the new Field Trip Chair and brings great experience from his work with the Mountaineers. Stuart is working to pull together a Field Trips Committee and has a member survey online (www.wnps.org/cps/field-trips.html). Please fill it out! Also, Cheryl Wagner has taken a new position as Eastside Team Chair. This new position is one that we believe will allow us to work cooperatively across the Central Puget Sound region. Cheryl has a long history being a steward and volunteer on the Eastside. We are delighted to have Cheryl and Stuart join us!

Plant Sale: Plant Sale Committee members, under the leadership of Plant Sale Chair Rick Thompson, have been working very hard to organize for not only the April 29 Plant Sale on Mercer Island, they have also been planning for the Fall Plant, Bulb and Seed sale. As always, an amazing diversity of plants were sourced, great care given to donated plants at the Magnuson Nursery, volunteers recruited (we could use more!) and publicity efforts widespread.

Education: Education Chair Franja Bryant has worked with member Mary Ingels to create a beautiful new display that provides a cohesive story of what WNPS is all about, Why Native Plants matter and makes a case for protecting Washington's botanical heritage. It is a much needed and well-received upgrade to the display.

Updating Policies and Banking Decisions: CPS Treasurer Joy Johnsen has led a multi-month process of updating the Chapter's accounting procedures with new policies adopted on April 17. In addition, the Chapter Board approved moving our funds into a credit union over the course of the year. Lastly, the Chapter Standing Rules were updated to create some new Board Positions: Eastside Team Chair, Programs Chair (previously a non-board position) and added two new At Large positions, to bring the total possible At Large positions to six. We also removed the Book Sale Coordinator and Standing Committee from the Standing Rules. Lastly, we

revised the Vice Chair position to narrow down the responsibilities. Updated documents will be available on the CPS website on our Policies page.

Slate of Officers for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018: The CPS Board approved the Slate of Officers for member election. They include:

Chapter Co-Chairs: Chrys Bertolotto and Franja Bryant

Vice Chair: Vacant

Treasurer: Joy Johnsen

Secretary: Sharon Baker

The election will take place prior to David Giblin's presentation on June 1 on the Revision of Hitchcock and Cronquist at the Mountaineers. If you are interested in a vacant board position, such as the Vice Chair, please contact me for more information: Chrys Sacco Bertolotto: Sitka.periwinkle@gmail.com or 206 588-1247.

WNPS-CPS Spring Native Plant Sale

Don't forget that our chapter's Spring Native Plant Sale and Environmental Fair is coming up on April 29, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

This spring's theme is "Habitat for Birds and Pollinators." We will have the largest local selection of beautiful native trees, shrubs, perennials, and ground covers for sale that are ideal for Western Washington gardens and vitally important for our birds and pollinators.

Our environmental fair participants will include the following organizations:

King County Noxious weeds

Kruckeburg Gardens

Mason Bees

Bats Northwest

Mercer Island Parks and Recreation

Mountains to Sound Greenway

National Wildlife Federation

Eastside Audubon

Flora and Fauna Books

Hand Made Bird Houses

Plant Amnesty

There is plenty of free parking!

Proceeds from this event benefit our chapter and its education programs.

Members-only shopping starts at 9:00 am! If you aren't already a member, you can attend the member's only sale by purchasing an individual adult membership for \$35 at the sale.

The sale is held at Mercerdale Park on Mercer Island, 77th Ave and 32nd St.

For more information go to <http://www.wnps.org/cps/plantsale>

We could still use help to make our plant sale run smoothly. Please consider making a donation of your time.

Currently, what we particularly need are volunteers for the following jobs: Talliers for Saturday afternoon; Takedown help 4:00 pm Saturday. Please see p. 17-18 for more details.

If you would like to volunteer for the Spring sale, please contact Rita Moore: rita.a.moore@gmail.com

Field Trip

"The Earth is our First Teacher"

Enjoy a tour of the taqwsheblu Vi Hilbert Ethnobotanical Garden at Seattle University.

Wednesday, May 3, from 11am to 12:30pm
Seattle University
901 12th Ave
Seattle, WA 98122
Trip Leader: Professor Rob Efirm

Rob Efirm is an applied cultural anthropologist with a special interest in environmental education and working with community partners. He had a major role in the development of the Seattle University Ethnobotanical Garden, along with the SU gardening staff and local First Peoples, including Vi Hilbert. In December of 2016, Rob joined the Central Puget Sound Chapter to share with us the creation of the Ethnobotanical Garden. He also shared his vision for using the garden and the installation of native plant gardens at local schools to ground young people in our natural environment and its cultural history. Rob also agreed at that time to lead field trip at the Garden for us in the spring. That time has come!

The 11,500 square foot taqwsheblu Vi Hilbert Ethnobotanical Garden is organized in four biomes, representing the major ecological areas of the Pacific Northwest. They include alpine, lowland forest, wetland and prairie.

Exploring the biomes will allow us to learn more about how the First People of the Puget Sound co-existed with their environment, using the plants for food, medicine, and materials for building, carving, weaving, fishing and ritual activities. As the plaque at the entrance to the garden says: "Where Seattle University stands, a forest once stood. In and around this forest people and plants lived closely together for many centuries before the city of Seattle was established. This garden invites you to learn more about this intimate, sustainable relationship and encourages you to cultivate your own relationship with our native plants."

Meet at the West Entry of Seattle University's Lemieux Library. Attendance will be limited to 12 individuals. To register for the event, contact Sharon Baker: Sabaker41@gmail.com, 206-464-1068 (mobile) or 206-935-1769.

Eastside Branch News

By Sid Gupta

Upcoming Program: *Gardening with Native Plants*

Date: Monday, June 5th at 6:30pm

Location: Sammamish Library, 825 228th Ave SE, Sammamish, WA 98075

Join us at the Sammamish Library on Monday, June 5, for Marcia Rivers Smith's presentation of ***Gardening with Native Plants***. The presentation will start at 7:00 PM, and at 8:00 PM we will take a walk down through the Native Plant Garden in Sammamish's Lower Commons Park for some hands-on discussion. This event is a great primer for those new to natives of the Pacific Northwest - be sure to invite anyone you know who's still on the fence about giving our natives a try!

Marcia Rivers Smith has been a Native Plant Steward for 20 years and served on the WNPS Central Puget Sound Chapter Board for several years. Her volunteer focus has been educating others about gardening with native plants, but she has also led plant identification walks. She and her husband have lived on 5 acres in Preston for over 25 years, where they have used native plants to reduce the use of water and chemicals in their landscaping as well as to attract wildlife.

Upcoming Program: *Coming of Age: Bellevue Botanical Garden at 25*

Date: Tuesday, June 13 at 7:00pm

Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue, Education Center, Room C

Nancy Kartes will share her unique perspective in a look back at the vision, planning, and collaboration that contributed to Bellevue Botanical Garden's phenomenal success. She will provide a glimpse into plans for future development that will position the Garden well for the next 25 years. Her presentation will be followed by a short tour of future project sites, including plans for the Urban Meadow, which will incorporate native plants and pollinator attractants. Please dress for the weather!

Nancy Kartes discovered the joys of public gardens through student internships while earning a bachelor's degree in Ornamental Horticulture at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. After graduation, Nancy joined the development staff of the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii, where she was later promoted to assistant director.

Returning to the Mainland, she was hired by the City of Bellevue's Parks & Community Services Department in Washington State to transform the dreams of local community organizers into a flourishing botanical garden. Under her leadership, the Bellevue Botanical Garden has grown from a 36-acre property to 53-acres with curated living collections managed in partnership with nine horticultural organizations. In addition to collections — enjoyed by over 200,000 visitors annually — the Garden has a thriving garden shop and espresso bar and hosts community building events year-round. Nancy manages the partnership with the Bellevue Botanical Garden Society, a nonprofit that provides educational programming, hosts events and raises funds on behalf of the Garden.

If you have any questions about the Eastside Branch and its activities and opportunities, contact Sid Gupta: siidd@gmail.com.



Plant of the Month: *Achlys triphylla* – Vanilla Leaf

By Janka Hobbs

Vanilla leaf or deersfoot is locally common in Westside woodland understories from southern BC to California's bay area. The tripartite, horizontally held leaves sprout from nodes on rhizomatous roots. Though the nodes can be widely spaced on any given root, the roots often grow in crisscrossing tangles, resulting in unbroken

swathes of the pale green leaves, accented by spikes of frothy white flowers.

Achlys is a small genus in the Berberidaceae that contains three forms. *A. triphylla* is our common, diploid, inland species. *A. californica* is larger, more coastal, has more leaf lobes, and is tetraploid. *A. japonica* is found in Japan and Korea, but has only minor morphological differences. Whether *californica* and *japonica* are species or subspecies depends on the source. The *triphylla/californica* differentiation is complicated by the existence of triploid populations in both California and Washington.

The name Achlys comes from the Greek goddess of misery and sadness, or the "mist before death." There are several possible explanations for this name. One is the vanilla scent of the leaf, which is stronger after the leaf is dried. Another is the misty look produced by the tiny white flowers as they float over the horizontal leaves.

The dried leaves can be hung in bundles as an air freshener and fly and mosquito repellent. A decoction of the plant can be used in a bath to get rid of lice in both humans and sheep. In the garden, *A. triphylla* makes a fine groundcover under rhododendrons and evergreens, where its wide leaves serve as a counterpoint to frilly fern fronds.

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WNPS and CPS Contact Information

The WNPS Office Welcomes visitors:

Monday – Thursday – 9:00am to 4:30 pm daily

Friday – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, appointment only.

Please call ahead to confirm availability, especially if traveling a distance.

Office Contacts

Denise Mahnke, WNPS Business Manager, wnps@wnps.org

Elizabeth Gage, WNPS Office & Volunteer Coordinator, info@wnps.org Phone: (206)527-6310

Full WNPS Staff Information is available online: http://www.wnps.org/contact_wnps.htm.

Membership, Dues and Questions

Membership Rates in 2017

Individual Membership \$35

Family Membership \$45

Club or Organization Membership \$65

Budget Membership \$20

Student \$20 (name of institution _____)

This is the address members should use for correspondence regarding membership, dues payments, etc.

Washington Native Plant Society

6310 NE 74th ST, Suite 215E

Seattle, WA 98115

206-527-3210

info@wnps.org

Email Lists

The State WNPS List is a state-wide list for announcements, news and discussion relevant to native plants and the WNPS.

To join, go to: https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WNPS_DiscussionGroup/info and hit the "Join" button, or send an email to wnps_discussiongroup-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. It only takes a couple of minutes!

The new group will be "restricted" in that admission to the group must be granted, but messages will be unmoderated. Once you are a member, you will be able to set your personal preferences for receiving messages (e.g., individual messages as they are posted or a daily digest). You will also be able to unsubscribe yourself if and when you desire.

Social Media Resources

Web page: Central Puget Sound Chapter

<http://www.wnps.org/cps/index3.html>

CPS Facebook page: Washington Native Plant Society, Central Puget Sound Chapter

<https://www.facebook.com/wnps.centralpugetsound/>.

For submissions to Facebook page, contact:

Ted Couillard at jtheo25@gmail.com and cc to Jan Bird at birdandcat@aol.com.

Meetup page: Washington Native Plant Society, Central Puget Sound Chapter

<https://www.meetup.com/Washington-Native-Plant-Society/>

Electronic Newsletter Option

Many of you have chosen to receive your Native Plant Press electronically, and we thank you! This will save printing and postage expenses that can better go to our Chapter programs and activities. If you did not receive an e-mail about this option and would like to get the electronic version of the newsletter, please send your request to the CPS Staff Person at info@wnps.org.

Newsletter Submission

The deadline for the newsletter is the first Thursday of the preceding month, exactly one month before the meeting. Send submissions to the editor: Rick Bergman

Email: rickbergman@comcast.net

Phone 206-372-9816

Digital photos must be high-resolution or will NOT be accepted.