

THE NATIVE PLANT PRESS

The Newsletter of the Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS

Vol 16, No 3, April 2015

Chapter Meeting
Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 PM
Center for Urban Horticulture*

April Program by Franja Bryant

Gardening for Butterflies in the Puget Sound Region

By David Droppers, Washington Butterfly Association

To many, it may seem obvious why some would want to design their garden to attract butterflies. Who wouldn't want to have a garden filled with these dazzling, colorful, flying insects? But there are reasons other than aesthetics to provide a backyard habitat for these species. Learn of the many obstacles butterflies face in the Puget Sound region, and the unique challenges of the region that gardeners meet when gardening for them.

Not only will participants learn about what plants to include in their garden to attract butterflies, but they will get a glimpse into butterfly biology – how they see the world, what additional resources they need, all centered on how to design your garden for maximum attraction. David will enthusiastically introduce you to the world of butterflies, and how inviting them into your backyard will reveal how they are connected to a number of other species of urban and suburban wildlife. Watch your garden come alive with bloom and wing.

2015 Program Calendar

April 2: Gardening for Butterflies in the Puget Sound Region, by David Droppers, Washington Butterfly Association

April 14: Introduction to Mosses by Lee Ellis for the Eastside Branch

May 7: Lichens: more than meets the eye, by Richard Droker and Dr. Katherine Glew.

June 4: The Hidden Half of Nature: microbial roots of life and health by Dr. David Montgomery

Native Plant Identification Workshop

By Nelson Salisbury, Chapter Botanist

A free plant identification workshop is offered before each Chapter meeting at 6:00 PM in CUH, Main Hall. 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.

*** CUH Location**

The Chapter meeting will be held on the University of Washington campus at the Center for Urban Horticulture, 3501 NE 41st Street, (Mary Gates Memorial Dr. NE) Seattle, 98195. We will meet in the Main Hall. To help you find the meeting location, you can find excellent maps at the UW website at www.universityofwashington.edu/maps. Look for the Northwest Horticultural Society Hall adjacent to Miller Library. Refreshments and socializing begin at 7 PM, followed by a short business meeting at 7:30 PM, and then the formal program.

Newsletter Contents

CHAPTER MEETING THURSDAY, APRIL 2 AT 7:00 PM CENTER FOR URBAN HORTICULTURE*	1
APRIL PROGRAM BY FRANJA BRYANT	1
GARDENING FOR BUTTERFLIES IN THE PUGET SOUND REGION	1
BOARD REPORTS	4
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR.....	4
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS.....	5
CPS PLANT SALE NEWS.....	5
DONATIONS FOR THE 2015 SPRING PLANT SALE	6
REFRESHMENTS AT OUR MEETINGS	7
EASTSIDE BRANCH NEWS.....	7
FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE	8
VOLUNTEER NEWS	8
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE OFFICE THIS SPRING!	8
VOLUNTEER THANK YOU.....	8
NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	9
2015 SPRING PLANT SALE	9
PLANT OF THE MONTH	9
<i>CIRCAEA ALPINA</i> – ENCHANTER'S NIGHTSHADE.....	9
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	10
CENTRAL PUGET SOUND CHAPTER WNPS OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2014-2015	11
WNPS AND CPS CONTACT INFORMATION	12
MEMBERSHIP, DUES AND QUESTIONS	12
EMAIL LISTS	12
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER OPTION	12
NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION	13

Board Reports

Message from the Chair

By Chrys Bertolotto, Acting CPS Board Chair

Board Decisions: At our February board meeting, the board made a few important decisions. First, we've provided a small living wage raise to Barbara Harrell, the Office Assistant who works part time for the state organization and our chapter. We also decided to invest in some new audio visual equipment to replace aging equipment used at monthly member meetings and other venues, and also provided the program chair some discretion to provide stipends to speakers coming great distances to share the knowledge with us – please come to our monthly meetings to learn from these amazing speakers!

Native Plant Appreciation Week is Coming! Vice Chair Cindy Spurgeon has also been planning a new approach to Native Plant Appreciation Week activities. Instead of organizing a tour of private gardens, Cindy will be setting up mini-tours at a few public gardens with vibrant native plant landscaping. This approach has the benefit of allowing us to reach people who are already at those sites! If you would like to suggest a site for a public garden tour, or perhaps offer to staff a small table at your favorite spot, please contact Cindy with your ideas.

Communication: In the months ahead, you'll start seeing "Messages" from other board members. Look for more in-depth updates on topics like the State Stewardship program and Native Plant Appreciation Week from those leaders who run those programs or activities. The Chapter Board is very much a team effort, so I'm happy to share this "Message from the Chair" space with my fellow board members.

Chapter Needs: I would be remiss if I didn't tell you about the major needs of our chapter. We need more help organizing the activities that many of us enjoy. We are currently in need of people to organize field trips, a new salvage coordinator as Janka Hobbs looks to retire in the near future, a stewardship chair or co-chairs (more on this soon!) and more help on coordinating volunteers for education events. The plant sale committee and nursery team are always looking for new volunteers, too. If you have any interest in doing more for native plants and native habitats, and would like to work besides very knowledgeable mentors, please don't hesitate to contact me so we can talk about the options.

Enjoy the blossoming happening all around us!

Welcome New Members

A Big Welcome to these new members in the Central Puget Sound Chapter in 2015!

James Cronan
Mike Schuh
Janice Johnson
Kerry Oster
Jon Chalfant
Signe Drake
Maureen Traxler
Peter O'Mara
Daniel Porcz

CPS Plant Sale News

By Joy Johnsen, 2015 Plant Sale Chair

Spring Native Plant Sale

Saturday, May 9, from 9-4pm (9-10am WNPS members only)
Mercerdale Park, 78th Ave SE & SE 32nd Street, Mercer Island
Set-Up Friday, May 8, from 8-3pm; Take-down May 9, from 4-7pm.

Fall Native Plant Sale

Saturday, October 3 from 9-4pm (9-10am WNPS members only)
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street, Bellevue
Set-Up Friday, October 2, from 12noon-7pm; Take-down October 3, from 4-7pm.

This May 9 will be our third Spring native plant sale at Mercerdale Park. We're hosting another environmental fair with multiple guest-booths. We're trying to attract fresh audiences by featuring a new broad theme centered on native plants, birds, and pollinators. We will still promote raingardens with plant-lists. And we'll have a potting-up area too. Our plant-list will go up two weeks in advance at http://www.wnps.org/chapter_info/chapter_sales.html. This year we are adding asterisks to mark species in low supply.

There are several things members might do to support our major biannual plant sale fundraiser. You could encourage your friends to join WNPS so they can shop early from 9 to 10 am with WNPS members. You could volunteer for the plant sale committee and help organize the event (contact me to discuss what needs doing (Joy_Johnsen@hotmail.com; 425 820-2407).

You could volunteer at least one shift at each plant sale! Contact npsvolunteers@gmail.com to lock in your favorite role. If you know lots about birds or pollinators or raingardens, volunteer to wear a special button-pin. Be ready to field customer questions about the relationships between native plants and your button-topic.

You could also come to nursery work-parties in Magnuson Park. Usually they are on the first Monday morning each month, but the frequency will be stepping-up soon. Nursery work-parties are a great time to chat with plant experts. It's also a perfect chance to drop-off your native plant donation. Last work-party, a member brought a snow-disc full of native plants – a cool use for their toy during our winter with so little snow.

Looking ahead to the Fall: Our native plant sale returns to Bellevue Botanical Garden this October 3. They have a new modern layout, so it should be exciting. Save the date!

Donations for the 2015 Spring Plant Sale

Please consider a donation to the Washington Native Plant Society, a 501c3 nonprofit organization in 2015. The WNPS Central Puget Sound Chapter, Plant Sale Committee, is now accepting donations for the 2015 Spring Plant Sale. The committee is looking for the best examples of northwest native plants from your garden. The following plant list are examples of plants the committee is looking for.

Latin Name	Common Name
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Adiantum aleuticum</i>	Maidenhair Fern
<i>Antennaria microphylla</i>	Little-leaf Pussytoes
<i>Antennaria rosea</i>	Rosy Pussytoes
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Sea-thrift
<i>Aruncus dioicus</i>	Goat's Beard
<i>Dicentra formosa</i>	Bleeding Heart
<i>Heuchera chlorantha</i>	Tall Alumroot
<i>Iris setosa</i>	Beachhead iris
<i>Iris tenax</i>	Oregon Iris
<i>Luzula parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Woodrush
<i>Lysichiton americanus</i>	American Skunk Cabbage
<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>	False Solomon's Seal
<i>Pectiantia ovalis</i>	Coastal Miterwort
<i>Penstemon cardwellii</i>	Cardwell's Penstemon
<i>Penstemon ovatus</i>	Broad-leaved Penstemon
<i>Penstemon procerus</i>	Small Flowered Penstemon
<i>Penstemon richardsonii</i>	Richardson's Pentstemon
<i>Penstemon serrulatus</i>	Coast Penstemon
<i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i>	Blue Skullcap
<i>Sedum spathulifolium</i>	Broad-leaved Stonecrop
<i>Solidago lepida</i>	Canada Goldenrod
<i>Thalictrum occidentale</i>	Western Meadow-rue
<i>Tiarella trifoliata</i>	Foamflower
<i>Trientalis latifolia</i>	Broad-leaved Starflower
<i>Triteleia grandiflora</i>	Largeflower Tritileia

Latin Name	Common Name
Viola glabella	Yellow Wood Violet
Viola palustris	Marsh Violet
Viola sempervirens	Evergreen Violet

Contact Rick Thompson at q.garryana@gmail.com (or 425-582-2477) if you are interested in making a donation.

Need Containers For Plant Demonstrations

Please benefit the WNPS Spring Sale by donating large, decorative planting containers. Terra cotta and ceramic are best, but anything nice someone could display on their deck or patio is greatly appreciated. The native plant demonstration pots are a popular activity and a big benefit toward the sale. Please notify Shanna Hobbs at 559-731-4426 or sraehobbs@gmail.com by May 6 with donations. Thank you!

Refreshments at Our Meetings

By Dan Paquette

Thanks to all of you who have helped with refreshments at our membership meetings. Some of you have helped wash the dishes, others set the food out and brought treats, still others helped moving the blue tubs to my car. Sharon Baker will be in charge of refreshments at the April and May meetings. Cindy Spurgeon will also be present to help. Please give them a hand at these upcoming meetings.

Eastside Branch News

By Sid Gupta

Eastside Program: An Introduction to Mosses

By Lee Ellis

Have you ever asked yourself "What exactly is a moss?" "Why are mosses small?" How do mosses differ from flowering plants?" This presentation will provide some answers for you. We will start with some historical background on the study of mosses, followed by the basics of moss structure and reproduction, with an emphasis on the characteristics used to identify mosses. There will be a display of about 25 common Washington mosses, so bring a hand lens if you have one. A limited number will be provided.

Local moss enthusiast Lee Ellis became hooked on mosses after taking a class taught by Elva Lawton (who died in 1993). Dr. Lawton was the author of Moss Flora

of the Pacific Northwest. Lee now volunteers in the UW bryophyte herbarium, in addition to teaching moss classes and leading moss field trips.

Date: Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 pm for social time, 7:30 for the program

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

Eastside Work Party: Bellevue Botanical Garden

We will be partnering with the East Lake Washington District Garden Club to work in the native plant area of the Bellevue Botanical Garden from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Friday, May 15. We are actively seeking volunteers for this event. If you are interested in attending and helping out, please contact Franja Bryant to sign up: franjabryant@hotmail.com.

Note: If you would like to be added to the Eastside Branch email list, please notify Barbara Harrell at the CPS office: info@wnps.org or call 206-527-3210.

Field Trip Schedule

Rio Montana has stepped down as Field Trip Chair. The important search is on for a new field trip coordinator. Please speak with any board member if you are interested and we will get you situated.

Volunteer News

Volunteers Needed in the Office this Spring!

Do you love to file, scan, enter data into a computer and perform sundry, important tasks? Would you like to support the Society at the office at Magnuson Park? As the days lengthen and the plants begin to grow, so does the workload at the WNPS office at Magnuson Park. If you are interested in helping out, even for just a couple of hours a week, email Barbara Harrell at info@wnps.org or call 206-527-3210.

Volunteer Thank You

A big thanks to the Volunteers at the Magnuson Park Nursery on March 2, 2015. Volunteers are always welcome (and especially appreciated at this time of the year) at the Magnuson Park Nursery on the first Monday of every month. The next Volunteer Work Party will be on Monday, April 6. To sign up or get directions, contact Rick Thompson g.garryana@gmail.com or George Macomber at GeorgeMacomber@98115.net. The volunteer list follows:

Tom Johnson
Dianne Kelso
Mary Bicknell
Ron Ratko
Dave Kreul
Sila Washburn
Joy Johnsen
David Perasso
Barbara Broderick
Rick Thompson
Susan Dawson
George Macomber
Barbara Downward
Margaret Thouless
Bonnie Miller

News and Announcements

2015 Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 9
Mercerdale Park, Mercer Island

See details starting on page 5.

Plant of the Month

Circaea alpina – Enchanter's Nightshade

By Janka Hobbs

Enchanter's nightshade is a small, vernal, ephemeral perennial of damp, shady places. The genus *Circaea* is a member of the Onograceae, or evening primrose family, comprising a widespread circumboreal complex of seven species, some of which can be further divided into subspecies. *C. alpina* is sometimes divided into two varieties, var. *alpina* and var. *pacifica*. Here is what Hitchcock and Cronquist (vol.5) have to say about that:

"This is a highly variable taxon often treated as two species, but not believed to be separable even into clearly marked geographic races, although much of our material (from B.C. to Ida. And Calif.) appears to be characterized by subchordate and subentire to denticulate leaves. This phase is somewhat unduly significantly distinguished as var. *pacifica* . . . in contrast to the more widespread var. *alpina* which has more evidently chordate and more strongly dentate leaves.

Lest the unwary be enchanted by the name or appearance of this plant, it should be pointed out that it easily rates as one of the worst weeds among our native plants.”

Everyone has their favorites. And otherwise.

The genus *Circaea* is named after the Greek nymph Circe, who was renowned as an herbalist. In Homer’s *Odyssey*, she used enchanter’s nightshade to turn most of Odysseus’ crew into pigs. (They were later cured with an extract of *Gallanthus*.)

While *C. lutetiana* (a related species), is used as a medicinal in parts of Europe, I could find no indication of human uses of *C. alpina*. One website I looked at suggested that knowledge of it’s use was lost (at least in Europe) when witchcraft was suppressed by the Church. It is also possible that the association with Circe is as misleading as the rest of its name. After all, nightshades are generally members of the Solanaceae. And, one place *C. alpina* is most unlikely to be found is in alpine habitats.

Calendar of Events

April 2 at CUH – *Gardening for Butterflies in the Puget Sound Region* by David Droppers, Washington Butterfly Association

April 14 at Bellevue Botanical Garden for the Eastside Branch - *Introduction to Mosses*, by Lee Ellis

May 7 at CUH - *Lichens: More Than Meets the Eye*, by Richard Droker and Dr. Katherine Glew, UW Herbarium

May 9 at Mercerdale Park, Mercer Island - Spring Plant Sale.

June 4 at CUH – The Hidden Half of Nature: microbial roots of life and health by Dr. David Montgomery

Central Puget Sound Chapter WNPS Officers & Committee Chairs 2014-2015

Chair

Chrys Sacco Bertolotto
(206) 588-1247
sitka.periwinkle@gmail.com

Immediate Past Chair

Rob Smith
425-222-7582
nw.wildflower@earthlink.net

Vice-Chair

Cindy Spurgeon
206-632-6432
cspurgeon@msn.com

Secretary

Ted Couillard
206-384-5277
jtheo25@gmail.com

Treasurer

Marilee Henry
425-823-0324
marilee@henrythorson.com

Board Member at Large

Margaret Thouless
206-527-5091
thouless1@comcast.net

Education

Franja Bryant
425-562-0353
franjabryant@hotmail.com

Botanist

Nelson Salisbury
206-372-4255
nelson@earthcorps.org

Assistant Botanist

Stewart Wechsler
206-932-7225
ecostewart@gmail.com

Conservation

Becky Chaney
425-880-4220
becky@chaney.org

Field Trips

VACANT

Plant Sales

Joy Johnsen
425 820-2407
Joy_Johnsen@hotmail.com

Fundraising

Joy Johnsen
425 820-2407
Joy_Johnsen@hotmail.com

Membership Services

Martin Chaney
425-466-8071
martin@chaney.org

Stewardship Program

Gary Smith
425-672-1370
smith.jgary@gmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator

Marissa Wright
360-805-3858
npsvolunteers@gmail.com

Nursery Chair

Tom Johnson
206-525-3176
tfjohns@u.washington.edu

Other CPS Contacts

Newsletter Editor

Rick Bergman
206-372-9816
rickbergman@comcast.net

Programs

Franja Bryant
425-562-0353
franjabryant@hotmail.com

Publicity
VACANT

Refreshments
Dan Paquette
425-486-4927
Jdanj.paquette@gmail.com

Salvage Coordinator
Janka Hobbs
425-869-2370
urtica@frontier.com

CPS Staff
Barbara Harrell
206-527-3210
info@wnps.org

WNPS and CPS Contact Information

Membership, Dues and Questions

Membership Rates in 2015

Individual Membership \$35
Family Membership \$45
Club or Organization Membership \$65
Budget Membership \$20

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

Washington Native Plant Society
6310 NE 74th ST, Suite 215E
Seattle, WA 98115
206-527-3210
1-888-288-8022 (from outside Seattle)
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@yahoo.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.

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 Barbara Harrell, 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

Word or RTF documents are preferred. Please put Latin names of plants in italics. Digital photos must be high-resolution or will not be accepted.