

# THE NATIVE PLANT PRESS

*The Newsletter of the Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS*

Vol 17, No 1, February 2016

## Chapter Meeting Thursday, February 4 Center for Urban Horticulture\*

### February Program by Sharon Baker

#### **The Genus *Erythronium* in western North America**

*By Ed Alverson*

Over the past several decades, Ed Alverson has been roaming the west in search of fawn lilies, avalanche lilies, and their kin. Western North America is actually the global center of *Erythronium* diversity, with 22 of the 33 species found worldwide, and western species exhibit a wide range of flower color and leaf form. Under optimal conditions they can form large colonies, and are a characteristic springtime feature of many western plant communities. While some of the western species are widespread, many are localized endemics. Ed will show photographs of both the common and rare species, and tell us some of what he has learned in the course of his explorations.

Ed Alverson has a BS in Biology from The Evergreen State College and a MS in Botany from Oregon State University, and has worked as a field botanist and stewardship ecologist in the Pacific Northwest (particularly in Oregon's Willamette Valley) for over 35 years. He has particular interests in fern taxonomy, comparative biogeography, and the conservation, management, and restoration of prairie, savanna, and oak woodland habitats. Ed has also authored more than 50 popular and scientific articles on a variety botanical and ecological topics, from plant taxonomy and ecology to botanical history and exploration, as well as keys for *Erythronium* and a number of fern families for the revision of Flora of the Pacific Northwest.

Doors Open at 6:00 PM for the Native Plant Identification Workshop; Program begins at 7:30 PM.

### **Program Calendar**

March 3: **Native Plants and Birds** by Dennis Paulson

April 7: **The Moss Flora of Washington** by Judy Harpel

May 5: **Forest Giants** by Robert Van Pelt

June 2: **Historical and Current Fire Regimes in eastern Washington: How Did We Get Here?** by Paul Hessberg

### **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](http://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 program.

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## Board Reports

### CPS Chapter Awards for 2015

#### Professional of the Year: Michael Yadrick

Michael is one of the three ecologists for Seattle Parks. He is our main contact with the Parks department. He has collaborated with WNPS since at least 2012 and is very supportive of our stewardship efforts. I communicate with him at least once a month since 2013. He is very honest, funny and cares about native plants. He is open and generous with negotiating a contract with WNPS and believes in our mission and abilities.

#### 2015 CPS Member of the Year: Joy Johnsen

Joy Johnsen has demonstrated passion and commitment to the mission of WNPS whether through leadership, service or assistance above and beyond expectations. Her work on both the 2015 Spring and Fall plant sales has been tireless, efficient and dedicated. She's been an excellent leader – consistently coming to meetings well-prepared, writing detailed reports to keep everyone informed and up-to-date and always showing much patience when recruiting and training new members.

Joy has also been helpful in contributing her support to some of the first Eastside Branch programs. In addition she is an active steward working managing and working on her restoration site.

#### Steward of the Year: George Macomber

George has worked alongside Ann Stevens in Ravenna Park. He is a 2011 WNPS Steward but has been volunteering for longer than that. George is very knowledgeable and works with neighbors. He is quiet (although witty) and doesn't speak up about his knowledge unless you ask him. In addition, George has reorganized the chapter nursery, keeps the inventory up to date and provides the plant information for the plant sales.

### Holiday Party

*By Rita Moore*

I want to thank all of those who came and especially those who helped make the party possible by decorating, managing the food and cleaning up afterwards. It could not have happened without you! Our Holiday Party was held January 7th rather than in December, to avoid conflicting with the many other holiday events. A good time, with good food and good company was had by all. Al Smith gave a brief presentation on the introduction of Holly into Seattle (why, oh why, did they do that) and the CPS Annual Awards were announced. About 60 merry people attended.

## 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](mailto:wnps@wnps.org)

Barrie Moss, WNPS Office & Program Coordinator, [info@wnps.org](mailto:info@wnps.org) Phone: (206)527-6310

Full WNPS Staff Information is available online:

[http://www.wnps.org/contact\\_wnps.htm](http://www.wnps.org/contact_wnps.htm).

## Donating Your Native Plants

We have already added nearly 1300 plants to our inventory for the spring sale from donations since the fall sale, potted up from at least 7 donors. Did you see species listed for the sale that you need to thin in your garden? Consider donating them to WNPS. Volunteers will pot them, just put them in a flat or box with some moist soil or mulch. It is important to provide a label with species and contact info. We primarily need native forbs, ferns, and small shrubs. We do not sell many trees.

Bring small plant donations to the chapter meetings. Nothing taller than 2' or individual plants bigger than would fit in a 1 gal pot. Arrive by 7 pm to allow time to move plants. Leave your plants in your car and find George Macomber or Tom Johnson. We will shuffle the plants between cars. Or, you can still leave plants at the Magnuson nursery in the donation beds with ID and contact information.

Unsold plants are donated to stewardship projects. If you have questions or if you drop off plants at the nursery contact George Macomber at [Georgems@98115.net](mailto:Georgems@98115.net) or call 206-526-7983. If you wish to donate plants but digging them, bringing them to a monthly meeting or bringing them to the nursery is problematic, please contact Ann Stevens at [annbstevens@earthlink.net](mailto:annbstevens@earthlink.net) or call 206-518-2246.

## Field Trip Schedule

**Trail Trip Leaders Needed:** If you would like to lead fellow WNPS members on a Trail Trip please contact Susan Dawson at [lapianta@aol.com](mailto:lapianta@aol.com). I can bring you up to speed and help decide on a hike that you would like to lead.

### **Pacific NW Flower and Garden Show February 19, 9:30 am**

Eager for spring? Come see the Flower and Garden show with WNPS members. Meet at the ticket booth at 9:30 am on Friday, February 19. Along with all the beautiful garden displays our itinerary will include a trip to the WNPS booth. At noon we will break for lunch either at the show or at a nearby restaurant.

If you can carpool email me your location and I will try to arrange it. The show runs from Feb 17 to Feb 21, Wed-Sat 9 am-8 pm, Sun 9 am-6 pm. The ticket price is \$18. Contact: Susan Dawson [lapianta@aol.com](mailto:lapianta@aol.com).

## Volunteers

### **2016 Flower and Garden Show**

**February 17-21**

**Washington State Convention Center, Seattle**

The 2016 Flower & Garden show is coming up in February and we need volunteers to host the WNPS booth! This is a fantastic opportunity for our organization to come together to promote the value and beauty that native plants add to the home garden and to our environment. It's a great opportunity to meet other members of WNPS and to talk to a variety of like-minded people.

An added perk is that when you volunteer you receive free admission to the Garden Show for the day(s) you serve in our booth.

Sign-ups will be done online. Please click on this link to reach our Doodle poll where you can select dates and times convenient for you.  
<https://doodle.com/poll/hpv3wuczbx4gqnv>.

We may also need some short-notice substitutes during the show. If you are generally available and /or willing to substitute on particular days and/or at particular times, please contact either Franja Bryant ([franjabryant@hotmail.com](mailto:franjabryant@hotmail.com)) or Barrie Moss at the WNPS office ([info@wnps.org](mailto:info@wnps.org)).

## King Conservation District Community Fair and Bareroot Sale

**March 5, 10:00am – 4:00pm**  
**1107 SW Grady Way, Renton**

We need volunteers for this event in 2 or 3-hour shifts, as well as people to help with booth set-up and take-down. This is a great event! Many people attend who are very interested in native plants. You will have some good conversations and an excellent opportunity to share information. To sign up, contact [franjabryant@hotmail.com](mailto:franjabryant@hotmail.com).

## Eastside Branch News

*By Sid Gupta*

Many of our Stewards will know Heidi Bohan from her presentations on ethnobotany as part of their stewardship training. This month, the Eastside hosted Ms. Bohan for a talk focused on plant use by the native peoples of Puget Sound, comprising foods, medicines, tools and entertainment, specifically during the winter months. Drawing from her many years of immersion into local Native American cultures, Heidi wove an intricate rendering of life beneath the Winter Moons, aided by examples of her own hand-crafted creations, for our audience of 21. Photos of the event can be found on the CPS Chapter Facebook page. For more on Heidi's work, please take a look at her book, "The People of Cascadia: Pacific Northwest Native American History."

If you missed this month's program, fear not! On April 20th, the Eastside will be hosting Dr. Janneke Hille Ris Lambers for a presentation on utilizing Citizen Science to study the effects of climate change on wildflower phenology in the high-mountain meadows of Mt. Ranier National Park, the importance of such long-term community-based ecological monitoring efforts, and the importance of wildflower phenology in the functioning of plant communities. You might remember that Dr. Hille Ris Lambers spoke to the CPS Chapter in February of 2015; her MeadoWatch program recently received funding through 2016, so we are excited to hear what progress has been made and what we can look forward to this year!

Dr. Hille Ris Lambers is an ecologist whose research focuses on the processes that structure plant communities and how these are influenced by anthropogenic activities (e.g. climate change). She is a faculty member in the Biology Department at University of Washington and heads up the Hille Ris Lambers Lab. For more information on her lab's activities see: <http://faculty.washington.edu/jhrl/Index.html>

## Upcoming Program

MeadoWatch: Exploring the link between climate change and wildflower phenology

Date: Wednesday, April 20th at 7:00 PM

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

## Native Plant Stewards

### CPS Chapter Stewardship Grants

Since 2003 the Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS has awarded grants to help support projects that promote restoration and protection of native plants and their habitats, or that contribute to the education and understanding of their importance. These grants will again be available this spring for members of WNPS. Past stewardship grants have been awarded for public habitat restoration, native plant educational gardens in schools and native plant demonstration gardens. For more information go to the website at WNPS.org, then click on Central Puget Sound Chapter. In the Chapter Information box click on Stewardship grants where you will find more details, or contact Cindy Spurgeon at [spurgeoncindy48@gmail.com](mailto:spurgeoncindy48@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Plant of the Month:

### *Corylus cornuta var californica*

By Janka Hobbs

Beaked hazelnut is a common multistemmed shrub in the family Betulaceae. Our subspecies, *californica*, ranges along the coast from central B.C. to central California. It is also found in Northeastern WA. *Corylus cornuta var cornuta* is found throughout the Midwest and Central Canada to the Eastern seaboard. There are



about 15 species of *Corylus* throughout the northern temperate zone, three of which are native to North America. The earliest known *Corylus* fossil, *Corylus johnsonii*, was found in Northeastern Washington State, and can be visited at Stone Rose Interpretive Center in Republic.

Identification in our area is complicated by the presence of *C. avellana*, (the commercial hazelnut or filbert) a closely related naturalized Eurasian species. I have heard a plethora of ways to distinguish between the two. One easy characteristic is that *C. avellana* blooms about two months earlier than *C. cornuta*, often in January in the Puget Sound lowlands. Another requires the presence of fruit. In *C. avellana*, the involucre does not completely enclose the nut. In *C. cornuta*, the bracts are tubular, forming the "beak." (*Var. cornuta* bracts are longer and hairier than *var. californica*, and the nuts are hairy as well.)

*C. avellana* is preferred commercially because it has larger nuts, and its looser involucre bracts are easier to remove, but both are delectable. *C. cornuta* was a staple food of native peoples. As with *Quercus garryana*, another widely traded edible nut, there are disjunct populations growing around historic village sites. Native peoples burned *Corylus* stands to promote nut production (the plant is shade tolerant, but produces better in full sun; the roots will re-sprout after a moderate fire.). The nuts of *C. cornuta* were traditionally buried for a couple of weeks after harvesting so that the bracts would rot and soften. Modern collectors sometimes dry them instead.

Hazelnut wood is quite pliable, and young branches were bent into dip net hoops. Long young shoots were sometimes used as cordage. The inner bark produces a blue dye.

Squirrels and steller's jays also adore hazelnuts, so if you want any for yourself, identify a productive shrub, and pick them while the nuts are still greenish. That way they will ripen in storage, and not inside a squirrel.

# Central Puget Sound Chapter WNPS

## Officers & Committee Chairs

### 2016-2017

<p><b>Chair</b> Chrys Sacco Bertolotto (206) 588-1247 <a href="mailto:sitka.periwinkle@gmail.com">sitka.periwinkle@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Conservation</b> Becky Chaney 425-880-4220 <a href="mailto:becky@chaney.org">becky@chaney.org</a></p>	<p><b>Refreshments</b> Dan Paquette 425-486-4927 <a href="mailto:Jdanj.paquette@gmail.com">Jdanj.paquette@gmail.com</a></p>
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	<p><b>Publicity</b> VACANT</p>	

## 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  
 Student \$20 (name of institution \_\_\_\_\_)

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](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WNPS_DiscussionGroup/info) and hit the "Join" button, or send an email to [wnps\\_discussiongroup-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.