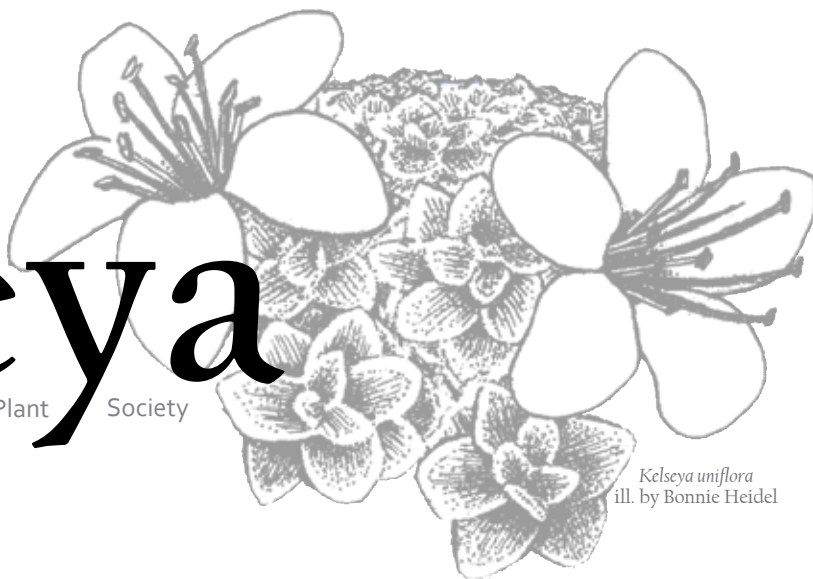


Kelseya

Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society



Kelseya uniflora
ill. by Bonnie Heidel

MNPS Annual Meeting: Needmore Prairie

By Beth Madden, Maka Flora Chapter

Join us June 17-19 at Camp Needmore in Ekalaka for the MNPS Annual Meeting. We will explore the rolling plains, buttes and table lands of southeast Montana, some of the most extensive, unbroken area of prairie in the state. A slate of field trips will take us to diverse prairie and ponderosa pine habitats. We'll visit Forest Service and private lands around Capitol Rock, Bell Tower Rock and Chalk Buttes, as well as nearby Medicine Rocks State Park and area BLM lands. In the evening, we will return to Camp Needmore, a rustic camp built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Custer National Forest. The main hall provides ample space to gather and share meals. You can stay in dormitory-style cabins, pitch your tent or hook up an RV. We have invited both the Wyoming and Great Plains Native Plant Societies to join us here.

Friday night's campfire will feature poetry and songs; please bring your contribution and/or instrument. On Saturday night, rancher and conservation writer Linda Hasselstrom will address the group after dinner and the membership meeting. Other activities will include the 17th annual Wayne Phillips Plant Identification Contest, a silent auction, raffle drawings and merchandise sales. Be sure to make time to visit the Carter County Museum in Ekalaka. This little-known museum houses some of the finest paleontological discoveries in the United States, as well as Native American and early settler artifacts.

Before June, you can bone up on the flora of southeast Montana with the Montana Natural Heritage Program's 1998 report "Botanical and Vegetation Survey

Continued on page 4



Penstemon Angustifolius.
Woodcut by Claire Emery
2011 www.emeryart.com

Narrowleaf penstemon (*Penstemon angustifolius*) stars as our emblematic plant for the Needmore Prairie meeting. Carter County is the only place in Montana where you can see this lovely purple, sand-loving wildflower. Artist Claire Emery has created a stunning woodcut of *Penstemon angustifolius* for our logo. Two original prints will be available to lucky bidders at the meeting. The artwork also adorns our 2011 t-shirts and other merchandise. Check out

Claire's art at www.emeryart.com.

IMPORTANT:

To prevent the spread of noxious weeds into this relatively pristine area of Montana, we are requiring that you wash your vehicle thoroughly before arriving at the Annual Meeting to get rid of any hitchhiking plant parts. Thank you for helping to protect our native plant communities!

Chapter Events

Calypso Chapter

Saturday, April 2, 10:00 am-2:00 pm. *Gardening With Natives.* Free workshop includes presentations by Kathy Settevendemie (basics of garden design, how to choose the right native plants, proper installation, maintenance and pests); David Schmetterling (creating a sustainable, wildlife friendly and renewable garden); and Karen Brower and Catherine Cain (ideas about favorite native plants and how to start your own garden blog). Heirloom flower and vegetable seed-packets and native plant seeds will be for sale, as well as plant books, bee motels and native plants. Bring a sack lunch and a beverage. Open to all; reservations required. Meet at the Divide Grange Hall, Divide (one mile west on Hwy 43 off I-15). RSVP: Catherine Cain at 498-6198 or nativeplants@montana.com.

Friday, April 15, 9:30 am-3:30 pm. *Weed Control Challenges Associated with Revegetation Efforts.* Sponsored by Montana Tech and the University of Montana, this symposium covers native plant revegetation efforts and weed management issues at Superfund sites. Presenters include UM Professor Ray Calloway, a plant ecologist specializing in native systems invaded by exotics; Kriss and Rick Douglass; DOT Engineer Phil Johnson, a revegetation manager; and a local weed coordinator. Revegetation site tour planned, snow conditions permitting, plus a facilitated discussion of how to coordinate weed control efforts. Montana Tech, Thornton Building Ballroom, 65 E. Broadway, Butte. Enter on Wyoming St. side; public parking available one block east on Arizona St. Lunch provided. Info: Rick Douglass at 496-4450 or RDouglass@mtech.edu.

Saturday, April 16, noon-5:00 pm. Earth Day Celebration at Depot Park (next to the Museum on Montana St.) in Dillon. Sponsored by UM/Western Terra Verde Club. Lots of activities for all ages. Free and open to all.

Clark Fork Chapter

Meetings are held in Room Log, Gallagher Business Building, University of Montana campus unless otherwise noted. Herbarium Night presentations are held in Room 303, Botany Building, UM campus.

Thursday April 14, 7:30 pm. Remember the names of all those wildflowers? You haven't seen them for nearly a year. Get an early-season refresher with slides of Montana's Grassland Wildflowers.

Sunday, May 8, 2:00 pm. *Tip-Toe Through the Trilliums.* Join botanists Tarn Ream and Peter Stickney on this easy, relaxed outing to learn about trillium's interesting lifecycle, and the potential impact of over harvesting. Meet at the main Rattlesnake Recreation Area trailhead. Info: Kelly at 258-

5439.

Thursday, May 12, 6:30 pm. Annual Spring Potluck at the home of retiring president Mike Young, 529 Evan Kelly Rd. Head north on Duncan Dr., turn right onto the third street after the top of the hill. Mike's house is at the end of the cul-de-sac. Bring your own utensils and a dish to share.

Tuesday, May 17, 6:30-8:30 pm. Dyer's Woad Pull. Help control this noxious member of the mustard family and restore native grasslands during Wildflower Week. Twenty years ago the Dyer's Woad infestation on Mt. Sentinel was 7,000 plants; now we rarely find more than 100. Bring sturdy shoes and rain gear. Meet at the Mt. Sentinel (M) trailhead. Info: Marilyn at 544-7189.

Saturday, May 21, 8:30 am.-noon Montana Native Plant Society Annual Plant Sale at the Missoula Farmer's Market. Choose from more than 70 species of Montana native plants, including our state flower, the bitterroot. Come early for the best selection.

Wednesday, May 25, 6:30 pm. Grassland Restoration. Kathy Knudsen and Tom Deveny are attempting to restore native vegetation on their property west of Missoula after a century of over-grazing there. Check out revegetation efforts following the 2007 Black Cat fire and look at areas that still have a good remnant native community of forbs and grasses. Kathy and Tom will share the trials and successes of this eight-year endeavor. Carpool from the northwest end of the Providence Center parking lot (east of Orange Street) at 6:00 p.m. Info: Kelly at 258-5439.

Tuesday, May 31, 6:30 pm. Dyer's Woad Pull. See above for details. Info: Marilyn at 544-7189.

Tuesday, June 7, 6:30 pm. John Toole Park Weed Pull. Help John Pierce and other volunteers restore old Missoula Valley's native grasslands. Bring a friend and a tool for weeding, take a seat and enjoy an evening near the Clark Fork River doing good for the community and the environment. Meet in the grasslands just north of the Waterwise Garden and east of the Missoulian, near the Kim Williams Trail. Info: John at 542-2640.

Saturday, June 11, 10:00 am-4:30 pm. The Biennial Native Plant Garden Tour and Reception. Head to the Rattlesnake area to visit some of Missoula's finest native plant gardens and meet the gardeners who created them. This enjoyable event ends with refreshments, and plants and seeds will be available for purchase. Pick up tour directions between 10:00-10:30 am on the south side of the Montana Native Plant Gardens, located on the UM Campus near the old Botany greenhouse. Bring water, snacks and lunch. Info: Kelly at 258-5439.

Tuesday, June 14, 6:30 pm. Last Dyer's Woad Pull of the season. See above for details. Info: Marilyn at 544-7189.

Sunday-Tuesday, June 19-21: Milton Ranch Plant Roundup. Following the Annual Meeting, visit the beautiful Milton Ranch near Roundup to help document the native plants on this well-managed land. This ranch is highly diverse in terms of geology, botany and bird species. Photographers, bring your photo



equipment to help with an image catalog of ranch species. Our hosts, Bill and Dana Milton, have invited us to stay on the property. Bring camping gear and food for meals. Arrive late Sunday afternoon or by 9:00 a.m Monday for our botanical excursion. RSVP: Bill and Dana by June 10 at 323-1771. Info: Kelly at 258-5439 or Wayne at 453-0648).

Flathead Chapter

Monthly meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at 540 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls. Programs start at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Members are invited to attend the 5:30 general meetings beforehand to discuss and plan chapter activities and business. Feel free to bring a sack supper.

Wednesday, April 20, 4:00 pm. Help spruce up the Native Plant Garden at the Square. Garden tools and gloves helpful. Followed by the general meeting at 5:30, and a program on the Global Observation Research Initiative in Alpine Environments (GLORIA) in Glacier National Park at 7:00. Lindsey Bengtson, a biological research technician for the Usage's Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center in West Glacier, discusses this effort to establish and maintain a world-wide network of long-term alpine observation sites. Meet at 540 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls. Feel free to bring a sack supper.

Monday-Friday, May 2-6: Volunteers needed for the Flathead Forestry Expo. MNPS and Flathead Forest botanists again host a plant identification education station for 5th grade field trips. Spend a few hours at the station, one or more days. You will be paired with an experienced presenter, and we have an easy-to-follow lesson plan. Info: Betty at 892-0129 or bkuropat@centurytel.net.

Wednesday, May 18, 6:00 pm. Al Raddatz Native Plant Garden Tour. Join native plant designer Leslie Lowe for a tour of the Al Raddatz property. Meet at the Ashley Square parking lot by Drivers Services, 1325 Hwy 2, Kalispell to carpool. Info: Leslie at 471-5760 or leslie@bruceboody.com.

Wednesday, May 25, 6:00 pm. Whitefish Trail Field Trip. Hunt for spring wildflowers and explore possibilities for an interpretive display. Follow Hwy 93 1.2 miles west of Whitefish. Turn right onto Lion Mountain Loop Road and follow it 1.2 miles to the trailhead on your right. Info: Jen Hintz at 270-7028 or jhintz2004@yahoo.com.

Wednesday, June 1, 7:00 pm. Kalispell Native Plant Garden Tour. Join native plant gardener Bill McClaren for a tour of the FVCC and Central School Museum Native Plant Gardens. Wheelchair accessible. Meet at FVCC, behind Blake Hall. If raining, meet inside Blake Hall. Info: Bill at 257-2540 or mccl@bresnan.net.

Kelsey Chapter

For information about Kelsey Chapter programs and events call Kathy at 449-6586.

Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 pm. *Bringing Nature Home: A Case for Native Gardening.* Chair of Entomology and Wildlife

Ecology at the University of Delaware, Doug Tallamy's recent book, *Bringing Nature Home*, explores the importance of the food web that encompasses native plants, insects, birds and humans. Tallamy believes that gardeners can slow the rate of species extinction and create biodiversity by choosing to plant natives in their gardens. Join us at the Lewis and Clark Library, Helena, for a free video showing of Doug Tallamy making the case for native plant gardens.

Monday-Friday, May 23-27: Celebrating Wildflowers Week! A weeklong slate of events on Mt. Helena. Monday features an evening hike for the public and program volunteers. Tuesday and Wednesday school kids come for plant identification (volunteer leaders needed). Thursday, wildflower presentation at the Lewis and Clark Library at 6:30 p.m. Friday, a morning wildflower walk for Moms/Pops/Tots on Mount Helena. Info: Kathy Martin, katbrim@bresnan.net.

Saturday, May 28, 10:00 am. Spring Wildflower Walk, sponsored by the Montana Discovery Foundation. Join us for a spring wildflower walk to historic Lewis & Clark Pass, east of Lincoln in the Alice Creek drainage. We will meander up to the pass (approximately three miles round-trip) and enjoy the views and the spring growth. Don't be surprised if we find snow! We often see glacier lilies, arnica, forget-me-nots, camas and shooting stars. Family friendly. Call for reservations; group limited to 20 people. Meet at the Alice Creek Trailhead. Info: 495-3718 or 495-3711.

Maka Flora Chapter

Join us at the MNPS Annual Meeting this summer, June 17-19 at Camp Needmore, Ekalaka. See details on pages 6 & 7.

For information about upcoming Chapter events, call Beth Madden at 789-7266.

Valley of Flowers Chapter

Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 pm. "*Native Grasses, Forbs and Shrubs for Conservation on the Northern Plains*," presented by Susan Winslow, agronomist at the Bridger Plant Materials Center (MTPMC). The Center focuses on new plant solutions for extending livestock grazing periods, low-water landscaping, restoring woody plants to native range, propagating threatened species and culturally significant plants, and reclaiming disturbed areas from mining, wildfire and road construction. The MTPMC has selected and released more than 30 conservation grasses, forbs and shrubs extensively used throughout the northern plains. Room 108, Plant BioSciences Bldg, MSU Campus.

Saturday, April 23, 9:00 am. Knapweed Pull. Our annual restoration project of this slope on Kagy Blvd. has made a big difference! The slope is beginning to flower in purple penstemon and yellow balsamroot. Bring gloves and a digging tool; meet at the corner of Kagy and Church Street.



of Carter County, Montana," by Vanderhost, Cooper and Heidel (www.mtnhp.org/plants/reports/bnv_survey_cartercounty.pdf). Two recommended flora guides for the area, both by Gary Larson and James Johnson, are *Plants of the Black Hills and Bear Lodge Mountains* (\$36.95), and *Grassland Plants of South Dakota and the Northern Great Plains* (\$19.95). You can purchase these online from the Badlands Natural History Association. They will not be sold at the meeting, so you might want to pick them up ahead of time.

An Annual Meeting registration form is included in this newsletter, or you may go to the MNPS website. You can register by mail or by using Paypal at www.mtnativeplants.org. Info: Beth Madden at 224-1012 or Doug Smith at 483-5431. Hope to see you there!

Letters: Awn addendum

Dear Editor,

Peter Lesica's article on awns in *Kelseyia*, (Winter 2011) was very informative and interesting. Because I did some work on awns in earlier days, I would like to add a bit to what Peter had to say.

Awns have some important functions other than crawling along the ground and burying the attached seed for germination and growth. Many grasses grow in areas that are naturally deficient in moisture – places like most of Montana. Cultivated grasses, such as wheat and barley, are important to our economy. Awns have most of the attributes of leaves – vascular systems, stomata, chlorophyll – but also a stiff structure that does not wilt when water is short. One of the first reactions of a grass to water deficiency is closing of the stomata in the leaf lamina. This conserves water in the plant by restricting transpiration, but also restricts gaseous exchange – respiration – and the uptake of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to support photosynthesis. However, awns do not wilt, so their stomata remain at least partially open under dry conditions and the plant continues to function at a low level. Thus, awned grasses do not go completely dormant under temporary wilting, but idle along until more moisture comes.

MNPS is Going Digital!

You can now renew your membership online at www.mtnativeplants.org/Becoming_a_Member. You may also choose to receive *Kelseyia* as a PDF email attachment instead of a hard copy. Visit soon to let us know your preference!



In studies of photosynthesis in wheat and barley, it was determined that the spike (head), and most especially the awned head, contribute significant amounts of photosynthate to the developing kernels of grain (seeds). When the lamina of wheat leaves were excised, the grain yield was still 60% of the seed produced by healthy, intact plants. Awned cultivars almost always outproduced awnless varieties.

So, give those beards their due! They are good for lots of things in spite of being nasty, sharp-clawed needles that sometimes cause distress to cows and pets.

—Al Scharen, Valley of Flowers Chapter



Pseudoroegneria spicata. Patrick J. Alexander @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

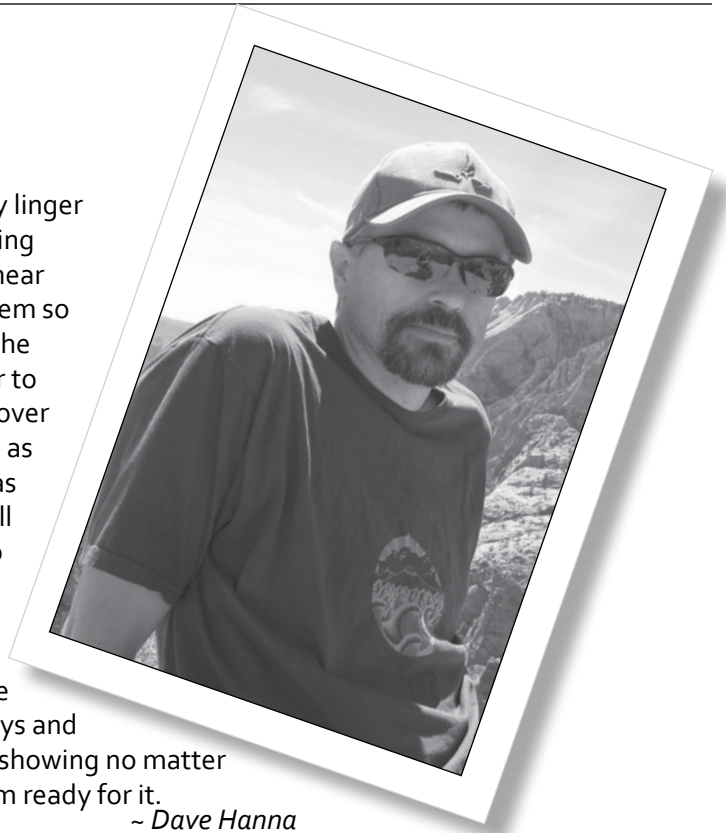


President's Platform

Most of Montana has had a pretty snowy winter, which may linger a little while longer. But I'm looking forward to our first spring wildflowers. *Douglasia montana* is often the first to bloom near where I live. These cushion plants with their tiny flowers seem so improbable yet so welcome on the dry rocky ridges above the snowbanks. The timing of their emergence varies from year to year with the weather—in one particular spot I've watched over the years, they have appeared as early as late February and as late as early April. As I write this in early March, the ridge has been covered in snow for some time, so I'm betting they will be later rather than earlier this year. It will be interesting to see what happens!

Soon after the *Douglasia*, a whole cast of hardy characters appears here—kittentails, Easter daisies, *Draba*, phlox, yellowbells and more. These plants have to be hardy because spring here oscillates between warm, dry days and snowstorms. But they are irrepressible and always make a showing no matter how unpredictable the weather. Spring is on the way and I'm ready for it.

~ Dave Hanna



Proposed Changes to By-laws

By Patrick Plantenberg

At the February 26 Board of Directors meeting, the Board clarified how MNPS Chapters can use the non-profit status of MNPS to apply for grants. Following is the language that the Board is considering adopting for its by-laws:

"Chapters may apply for grants and other funding using the Montana Native Plant Society 501 (c) (3) status with Board of Directors approval. Grant funds will be deposited in the State Treasury. Chapters will pay all grant expenses out of the Chapter Treasury. Chapter Treasurers will be responsible for all record keeping and reporting to the granting agencies. When the grant record keeping and reporting is approved by the funding organization, the Montana Native Plant Society will reimburse the local Chapter Treasury. If grant record keeping and reporting do not meet with funding organization approval, the local Chapter will not be reimbursed for Chapter losses by the Society."

As Secretary, I have reviewed the MNPS By-laws and suggests to the Board and general membership several other modifications to reflect actions taken since the last update in 2006. Following are the suggested By-laws additions:

"The Board of Directors may dissolve a Chapter that it finds is not fulfilling the intent of the Society in

establishing the Chapter. The Board will develop and maintain a Chapter dissolution policy and list it on the Society's webpage."

"The Secretary shall store all current Society records and dispose of them based on the approved record retention schedule."

"The Treasurer shall prepare a budget for approval at the Fall Board meeting. At budget time, the Treasurer shall check if the Society 501 (c)(3) status is current and take action if it is not. Any mail from the IRS must be forwarded to the Treasurer as soon as possible. The Treasurer shall store all current Society financial records and dispose of them based on the approved record retention schedule and IRS timelines."

"The Vice-President shall receive and present reports from Board members who are absent from Board meetings."

"The President shall preside over the regular Board Meetings and Annual Meeting."

The Board of Directors will present these proposed By-laws changes for approval at the General Membership meeting at the Annual Meeting in Ekalaka on June 18, 2011. If any member of the MNPS has any questions or suggested changes to these By-laws, please contact the MNPS Secretary Patrick Plantenberg at 431-4615, or m2andp2@mt.net.

MNPS 2011 Annual Meeting Preview



Come Explore Southeast Montana!

By Kurt Hansen, District Ranger, Sioux Ranger District, Custer National Forest



Yellow Lady's Slipper. Photo by Kurt Hansen

This year's annual meeting of the Montana Native Plant Society will be in Carter County in the Southeastern corner of the state. The trip should find the area in full bloom, with many forest and grassland species flowering.

The county contains a diversity of habitats and plant communities not found elsewhere in Montana. Land ownership is a mixture of private land, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and state lands.

You can go from big sagebrush/blue grama/claypan sites to lush ponderosa pine environments in just a few minutes.

Carter County has a high percentage of intact native prairie. It sits in the midst of the mixed-grass prairie region of the Great Plains. The grasslands are dominated by several species of wheatgrasses, needlegrasses, little bluestem and upland sedges. Shortgrass species such as blue grama and buffalograss can be found on the heavier clay soils. Spring flowers such as textile onion and wild parsley may still be blooming, along with cactus. Tallgrass species such as big bluestem and switchgrass can be found in riparian areas and favorable aspects on the higher elevations of the surrounding buttes. Sandy prairie soils can be found at Medicine Rocks State Park, where narrowleaf penstemon and silky prairie clover bloom along with spiderwort, green milkweed and lupine.

Being on the western edge of the Great Plains, the landscape provides enough elevation, terrain and protection that isolated forest stands can make it here despite the extreme climate and the two main forces that shaped the area prior to settlement—fire and grazing. Large fires in

1988 and 2002 have altered parts of the Custer National Forest back into an earlier successional stage.

Various sedimentary formations are exposed across Carter County, creating landmark buttes and rock formations. Ponderosa-pine forests dominate some of the higher buttes capped by sandstone. Cottonwoods and green ash grow along the two main drainages in the county—the Little Missouri River and its tributary, Boxelder Creek. Montana's only stand of bur oak is found in the southwestern part of the county. Stands of quaking aspen and an occasional paper birch can be found mixed in with ponderosa pine. The more developed aspen stands tend to have the most plant diversity. Plants such as twinflower, bunchberry, wintergreen (*Pyrola* spp.), strawberries, raspberries and sometimes a green orchid or hooded ladies tresses may be found in the understory. Larkspur and several species of beardtongue (*Penstemon* spp.) should also add to the colors of the uplands. I found a small population of yellow lady's slipper orchid in 2009 on Forest Service land. This population is the only known occurrence between the Black Hills and Sweetwater County, MT.

Rocky Mountain juniper stands also occasionally are found in the rougher badlands-type topography. The pockets of conifers provide an understory of plants that you more commonly might find in the Black Hills or else farther west in the Rocky Mountains. Sagebrush steppe can be found in large areas across the middle and southern parts of the county where the Pierre Shale formation is exposed. These niche environments attract birds and other species of wildlife not commonly associated with Southeast Montana.



Hooded Ladies Tresses. Photo by Kurt Hansen

[Kurt will be leading a field trip at the Annual Meeting, with hopes of finding yellow lady's slipper orchids in bloom. —Ed.]



Needmore Voters

by Patrick Plantenberg

As your native plant-landscaped yard starts to blossom this spring, please don't let the current national and local legislative shenanigans discourage you from voting for the 2011 MNPS officers. MNPS elections are pure fun and not contaminated by nominees threatening to nullify the Endangered Species Act!

First, the Nominations Committee is happy to announce that incumbent Dave Hanna has agreed to run for President again. He has served in this position for the last four years. Dave lives in Choteau with his wife, Becca, and their five cats, and does science and land management for The Nature Conservancy.

Next, incumbent Treasurer Jenny Tollefson has agreed to run for her first official term as Treasurer. She was appointed acting-Treasurer by the Board when former Treasurer Marlene Renwyck departed on extended travels. Jenny was active in the Flathead Chapter in the 1990s and now lives in Missoula, where she works as an ecologist and is the mother of two young children. She has survived her trial run as acting-Treasurer for the past six months and hopes to continue serving MNPS in this capacity.

Finally, incumbent Western-at-Large Director Judy Hutchins has agreed to represent the western Montana members that do not belong to a Chapter. Judy Hutchins has lived in Heron since 1973, where she grows both grass hay and timber. She received her degree in Wildlife Biology with a second major in Botany from the University of Montana, and has served on numerous boards, from the conservation district to environmental groups. She is a self-employed real estate investor/manager with a lifelong interest in the mysteries and pleasures of the plant world.

As in past years, the MNPS Board is offering \$100 to the Chapter with the largest percentage of voters. The Maka Flora Chapter in northeastern Montana has won the prize four out of six years! Can they win on their home prairie or will they "Needmore" votes?

Don't forget: MNPS members can submit ballots to the MNPS Electoral College via e-mail. Log on to mntnativeplants.com and find the link to the 2011 election ballot. Fill it out and e-mail it to m2andp2@mt.net.

If you prefer the election analysis resulting from review of the hard-copy ballots, fill out and mail the enclosed ballot today. Help your Chapter defeat Maka Flora in 2011. Results and prize money will be given at the MNPS Annual Meeting.

Seeking Silent Auction Items

The diversity of hand-made, unique and collectible goods and services at the Annual Meeting's silent auction makes this an exciting and fun event, as well as one of our best fund-raisers. We are in need of donations for this year's silent auction, so please think about what you can craft, bake, create or dig out of the closet or bookshelf. While last minute additions are always welcome, it helps if you let us know in advance what you will be donating. Contact Beth Madden at 224-1012 or bethmadden64@gmail.com with an item description, donor's name and how you plan to get the item to the meeting. Many thanks!

Linda Hasselstrom: Rancher, conservation writer to speak at Annual Meeting

Linda Hasselstrom will share a program entitled "No Place Like a Prairie Home" as the banquet speaker at the MNPS Annual Meeting in Ekalaka. Linda is a rancher and conservation writer based in Hermosa, South Dakota. Her most recent book, *No Place Like Home*, was selected as the 2010 winner of the WILLA literary award for creative nonfiction by Women Writing the West. She also won Best Woman Writer at the 2010 High Plains Book Awards in Billings.

In addition to her many memoirs, poems and essays, Linda has co-edited several anthologies of women's writings about the west. Her books will be available for sale at the meeting. Read more about her at www.windbreakhouse.com. Here, among other things, you can learn of the Great Plains Native Plant Society's efforts to create a public garden on Linda's ranch. Dedicated in 2001, the Claude A. Barr Memorial Great Plains Garden preserves white penstemon, red globe mallow, lanceleaf bluebells, golden pincushion cactus and dozens of other native plants on 350 acres of her property. A log cabin is being re-assembled on the site to serve as a visitor center.



Phenology Report: Flowers Coming Earlier

By Peter Lesica



A portion of Mount Jumbo (foreground).

Recording natural history observations often is a series of isolated experiences that can help us learn about individual species. But every now and again the observations add up to something more encompassing.

In the fall of 1992 I moved into my house at the foot of Mount Jumbo in the Rattlesnake Valley of Missoula. Mount Jumbo is a large, publicly-owned grassland with several hiking trails. In the spring of 1995 I started hiking a particular loop trail on the hill and writing down the dates I first observed different plants flowering. I did the hiking mostly to get in shape for field season, and it was fun to try to predict when the various species would first flower. I did this year after year from early March through May. I thought that the different species would come into bloom in the same order every year, and to some extent they did, but there was much more year-to-year variation than I expected. I assumed that all this changing around in blooming order meant that different species were not responding to the different annual weather patterns in the same way. A couple years ago a friend offered to help me compile all of my observations to see if we could figure out what was going on. So that's what we did.

Much of what we found was not too surprising; there was a general trend for earlier flowering. First flowering advanced a little more than one-

half day per year averaged over all 32 species analyzed and 14 years of the study. Nine of the species showed a strong trend to flower earlier, and only one species showed a strong tendency to bloom later. Similar advances in flowering dates have been reported for Western Europe, England, Washington DC, Wisconsin, Alberta and Thoreau's Walden Pond in Massachusetts, but our average annual advance was greater than for most of these studies.

The Mount Jumbo data also showed strong correlations between advances in flowering dates and weather. Earlier flowering was associated with warmer March temperatures and lower December/January precipitation (snow). Other studies have reported an association between advanced flowering and warmer temperatures, but ours was the first to show a correlation with precipitation, perhaps because ours was the only study from a semi-arid grassland. As such, Missoula receives an average of 13 inches precipitation annually compared to 30-40 inches for Europe and the eastern U.S.

Another thing we found is that it was more likely for the earliest flowering species, such as buttercups, biscuitroot and rockcress, to show greater advances in first-bloom dates compared to species that flower later in the season, such as waterleaf, paintbrush and



cutleaf daisy. The simplest explanation for this is that early-blooming species take their flowering cues from the weather, while later-blooming species rely more on day length. Many scientists believe that the advances in flowering date could put flowers out of sync with their pollinators as global warming intensifies. Later-flowering species could lose their pollinators because insect activity relies more on weather than day length. Plants that flower earlier will be okay because their pollinators will come out earlier too. Plants that continue to flower at the same time of year because they are cued by day length might become out of sync with their insects, who will come out earlier. We will just have to keep watching to find out.

Additional reading

Lesica, P. and P. M. Kittelson. 2010. "Precipitation and temperature are associated with advanced flowering phenology in a semi-arid grassland." *Journal of Arid Environments* 74: 1013-1017.

Menzel, A. and P. Fabian. 1999. "Growing season extended in Europe." *Nature* 397: 659.



Astragalus purshii



Lomatium cous



Hydrophyllum capitatum

- Species with strong flowering advances**
- Sagebrush buttercup (*Ranunculus glaberrimus*)
 - Biscuitroot (*Lomatium cous*)
 - Spring whitlow grass (*Draba verna*)
 - Rockcress (*Arabis holboellii*)
 - Holosteum (*Holosteum umbellatum*)
 - Desert parsley (*Lomatium ambiguum*)
 - Alyssum (*Alyssum desertorum*)
 - Annual stoneseed (*Lithospermum arvense*)
 - Pursh milkvetch (*Astragalus purshii*)
- Species with strong flowering retardation**
- Ballhead waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum capitatum*)

All photos courtesy Peter Lesica.



News & Notes

Small Grant Awardees Chosen

By Drake Barton, Acting Chair, Small Grants Committee

MNPS is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's Small Grant Awards. One award went toward a research project and the other supports a native plant demonstration garden in a school setting.

Recipients of the 2011 MNPS Small Grant Awards are Edith Dooley, University of Montana, and Bonnie Streeter, Glacier High School. Edith is a masters student at UM who is researching how the severity of blister rust infection may affect mountain pine beetle productivity in whitebark pine. Whitebark pine is under increased stress from bugs, fungal invasions and environmental changes. Bonnie is a science instructor at GHS in Kalispell. Students and teachers, with input from community members, are growing native plants in prepared beds outside the science rooms where they can be used for study by several science classes and enjoyed by students, staff and visitors to the school.

This year the Small Grants Committee received twelve proposals, with topics ranging from education/interpretation to plant genetics. They were all great projects with some very innovative ideas. Congratulations and thank you for your participation!

Thanks also to the Small Grants Committee members for their hard work. If you would like to get in on the fun, join us at the Annual Meeting or contact Linda Lyon at 683-2878.

Penstemon Society Grants

Grants are available from the American Penstemon Society, for projects deemed practical and useful to members of the American Penstemon Society.

Proposals that focus on endangered penstemon species also are encouraged. Grants are for one year and typically range from \$200 to \$1,000. Details about the proposal process and application forms are at www.apsdev.org; click on Special Projects. Info: Barbara at (303) 903-9278 or blewis@iriscolorado.com. Proposals accepted until May 31.



Penstemon alamosensis. Barbara Lewis, @ www.apsdev.org



Wait For It...

The MNPS 2011 Summer Field Trip Guide is due in your mailbox May 1st. Use it as a season-long reference for information on the best MNPS plant walks and guided field trips across Montana.

Welcome New Members

The Montana Native Plant Society welcomes the following new members:

Calypso Chapter:

Leroy Friel

Clark Fork Chapter:

Margaret Hendrick, Greg and Annalisa Martin, Josh Meek and Julie Reardon

Flathead Chapter:

Jana Goodman, Christie Bone, Linda Ertel, Chuck Williams and Greg Gunderson

Kelsey Chapter:

Cathy Starita, Millasi Vreeburg, Tom Ferris and Andrea Darling

Maka Flora Chapter:

Gary Thompson and Melissa Schroeder

Valley of Flowers Chapter:

Jane Mangold and Karen Kitchen

Eastern State-At-Large:

Traute Parrie

State At-Large:

Charlie Lonergan, Steven Rolfsmeier, Edward Clebsch, Erin Sigel and Frances. H. Clark

MNPS Chapters & the Areas They Serve

CALYPSO CHAPTER - Beaverhead, Madison, Deer Lodge, and Silver Bow Counties; southwestern Montana
 CLARK FORK CHAPTER - Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Powell, and Ravalli Counties
 FLATHEAD CHAPTER - Flathead and Lake Counties plus Glacier National Park
 KELSEY CHAPTER - Lewis & Clark, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties
 MAKA FLORA CHAPTER - Richland, Roosevelt, McCone, Sheridan, and Daniels Counties
 VALLEY OF FLOWERS CHAPTER - Gallatin, Park, and Sweet Grass Counties plus Yellowstone National Park

All MNPS chapters welcome members from areas other than those indicated. We've listed counties just to give you some idea of what part of the state is served by each chapter. Watch for meeting announcements in your local newspaper. Ten paid members are required for a chapter to be eligible for acceptance in MNPS.

Your mailing label tells you the following:

CHAPTER AFFILIATION: CAL=Calyпсо; CF=Clark Fork; F=Flathead; K=Kelsey; MF= Maka Flora; VOF=Valley of Flowers

YEAR YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: Memberships expire in February of the year listed on your mailing label.

Use this form to join MNPS only if you are a first-time member! To renew a membership, please wait for your yellow renewal card in the mail. **Moving? Please notify us promptly of address changes at mnpmembership@gmail.com.**

Membership in Montana Native Plant Society is on a calendar-year basis, March 1 through the end of February of the following year. New-member applications processed before the end of October each year will expire the following February; those processed after November 1 will expire in February of the year after. Membership renewal notices are mailed to each member in January. Please renew your membership before the summer issue of *Kelsey* so your name is not dropped from our mailing list. Your continued support is crucial to the conservation of native plants in Montana. THANK YOU!

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Name (please print) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Chapter Affiliation (optional) _____

Delivery preference _____ paper copy by mail _____ digital copy by email

You will receive membership acknowledgement by email, as well as a pdf of the most recent Kelsey. Future newsletter issues will arrive according to your preference indicated above.

**JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE at
www.mtnativeplants.org**

or by mail at
 Montana Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 8783
 Missoula, MT 59807-8783

Membership Level	Dues w/affiliation	Dues w/o affiliation
Individual	\$20	\$15
Family	\$25	\$20
Business/Organization	\$40	\$35
Living Lightly	\$15	\$15
Lifetime (one-time pymt)	\$300 per household	-----

Canadian subscribers please add \$4.00 to cover mailing costs. Additional donations may be specified for a particular project or the general fund.



About Montana Native Plant Society

The Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation chartered for the purpose of preserving, conserving, and studying the native plants and plant communities of Montana, and educating the public about the value of our native flora. Contributions to MNPS are tax deductible, and may be designated for a specific project or chapter, for the Small Grants fund, or the general operating fund.

Your yearly membership fee includes a subscription to *Kelsey*, the quarterly newsletter of MNPS. We welcome your articles, field trip reports, book review, or anything that relates to native plants or the Society. Please include a line or two of "bio" information with each article. Drawings should be in black ink or a good quality photocopy. All items should be typed, saved in Microsoft Word or rich text format (rtf), and sent electronically to: carokurtz@gmail.com or mailed to Kelsey Editor, 645 Beverly Avenue, Missoula, MT, 59801.

Changes of address, inquiries about membership, and general correspondence should be sent to MNPS Membership, 398 Jeffers Road, Ennis, MT 59729. Advertising space is available in each issue at \$5/column inch. Ads must be camera-ready and must meet the guidelines set by the Board of Directors for suitable subject matter; that is, be related in some way to native plants or the interests of MNPS members.

The deadline for each issue is Fall–September 10; Winter–December 10; Spring–March 10; Field Trip Guide–April 10; Summer–June 10. Please send web items to our webmaster concurrent with these dates.

If you want extra copies of *Kelsey* for friends or family, call the Newsletter Editor or email: carokurtz@gmail.com. No part of this publication may be reprinted without the consent of MNPS. Reprint requests should be directed to the Newsletter Editor.

Visit our website at: www.mtnativeplants.org or contact our webmaster Bob Person at: thepersons@mcn.net

MNPS Board of Directors

President	Dave Hanna	Choteau	466-3661
Past-President	Susan Winslow	Bridger	668-9112
Vice President	Karen Shelly	Missoula	542-0620
Secretary	Patrick Plantenberg	Townsend	266-5265
Treasurer	Jenny Tollefson	Missoula	381-3331
Newsletter Editor	Caroline Kurtz	Missoula	239-2695

Directors At-Large

Eastern Montana	Wayne Phillips	Great Falls	453-0648
Western Montana	Judy Hutchins	Heron	847-2717

Chapter Representatives

Calypso Chapter	Linda Lyon	Dillon	683-2878
Clark Fork Chapter	Mike Young	Missoula	721-7615
Flathead Chapter	Jennifer Hintz	Whitefish	270-7028
Kelsey Chapter	Kathy Lloyd	Helena	449-6586
Maka Flora Chapter	Beth Madden	Livingston	224-1012
Valley of Flowers Chapter	Joanne Jennings	Bozeman	586-9585

Standing Committees

Conservation	Peter Lesica	Missoula	728-8740
Membership	Cathie Jean	Ennis	599-9614
Landscaping/Reveg	Kathy Settevendemie	Bonner	244-5800
Small Grants	Linda Lyon	Dillon	683-2878

Moving? Please let us know at mnpsmembership@gmail.com

Montana Native Plant Society

Membership Chair
398 Jeffers Road
Ennis, MT 59729

MNPS 2010 BUDGET SUMMARY: 12/31/10

	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Proposed Var.	Variance
GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES						
Membership	\$7,500.00	\$8,036.50	(\$200.00)	(\$357.16)	\$7,300.00	\$7,679.34
Newsletter	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$6,500.00)	(\$5,867.62)	(\$6,500.00)	(\$5,867.62)
Operating Budget	\$400.00	\$200.00	(\$2,450.00)	(\$852.27)	(\$2,050.00)	(\$652.27)
Interest Income	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Operating Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Board Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$200.00)	(\$110.27)		
Donations	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$400.00)	(\$394.00)		
Committees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,500.00)	\$0.00		
Website	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$350.00)	(\$348.00)		
GOE TOTALS	\$7,900.00	\$8,236.50	(\$9,150.00)	(\$7,077.05)	(\$1,250.00)	\$1,159.45
SPECIAL PROJECTS						
Projects:	\$1,950.00	\$1,992.81	(\$4,150.00)	(\$4,150.00)	(\$2,200.00)	(\$2,157.19)
Friends of Herbarium	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)		
NRIPC Conference Sponsorship	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$500.00)		
Small Grants Fund	\$0.00		(\$2,000.00)	(\$2,000.00)		
Plant Conservation Conference	\$1,950.00	\$1,992.81	(\$1,350.00)	(\$1,350.00)		
Chapter Project: open	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$500.00)	\$0.00		
Annual Meeting:	\$4,050.00	\$7,587.10	(\$5,000.00)	(\$7,187.27)	(\$950.00)	\$399.83
Annual Meeting 2010	\$4,000.00	\$7,394.05	(\$5,000.00)	(\$7,187.27)		
Annual Meeting 2009 (adjustment)		\$63.05				
Merchandise sales from prev. mtgs	\$50.00	\$130.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	\$6,000.00	\$9,579.91	(\$9,150.00)	(\$11,337.27)	(\$3,150.00)	(\$1,757.36)
TOTALS	\$13,900.00	\$17,816.41	(\$18,300.00)	(\$18,414.32)	(\$4,400.00)	(\$597.91)

Prepared by: Jenny Tollefson MNPS Treasurer

MNPS 2011 BUDGET SUMMARY: 3/10/2011

Prepared by: Jenny Tollefson MNPS Treasurer

	<u>Proposed Inc.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Proposed Exp.</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Proposed Var.</u>	<u>Variance</u>
GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES						
Membership	\$7,500.00	\$5,832.00	(\$650.00)	(\$212.02)	\$6,850.00	\$5,619.98
Newsletter	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$6,500.00)	(\$1,357.43)	(\$6,500.00)	(\$1,357.43)
Operating Budget	\$400.00	\$220.00	(\$2,065.00)	(\$337.00)	(\$1,665.00)	(\$117.00)
Interest Income	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Operating Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$15.00)	\$0.00		
Board Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$200.00)	\$0.00		
Donations	\$300.00	\$220.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Awards	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$400.00)	\$0.00		
Committees	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	\$0.00		
Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,000.00)	(\$250.00)		
Website	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$350.00)	(\$87.00)		
GOE TOTALS	\$7,900.00	\$6,052.00	(\$9,215.00)	(\$1,906.45)	(\$1,315.00)	\$4,145.55
SPECIAL PROJECTS						
Projects:	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$4,000.00)	(\$600.00)	(\$4,000.00)	(\$600.00)
Friends of Herbarium	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)		
Audubon Donation	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)		
Small Grants Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$2,400.00)	\$0.00		
Chapter Project: open	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$500.00)	\$0.00		
Chapter Project: open	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$500.00)	\$0.00		
Annual Meeting:	\$4,050.00	\$0.00	(\$5,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$950.00)	\$0.00
Annual Meeting 2011	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	(\$5,000.00)	\$0.00		
Merchandise sales from prev. mtgs	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	\$4,050.00	\$0.00	(\$9,000.00)	(\$600.00)	(\$4,950.00)	(\$600.00)
TOTALS	\$11,950.00	\$6,052.00	(\$18,215.00)	(\$2,506.45)	(\$6,265.00)	\$3,545.55



Penstemon angustifolius
Original woodcut by Claire Emery

Montana Native Plant Society Annual Meeting:
"Needmore Prairie"
June 17-19, 2011
Camp Needmore, Ekalaka, Montana

Join us in exploring the vast rolling plains, buttes, and table lands of southeast Montana, in one of the most extensive and unbroken areas of prairie in the state. Field trips will take us to diverse prairie and ponderosa pine habitats. We'll explore Forest Service and private lands around Capitol Rock, Bell Tower Rock and Chalk Buttes, as well as nearby Medicine Rocks State Park and area BLM lands. At night we will return to Camp Needmore, a rustic camp nestled in the Custer National Forest. The main hall will provide ample space to gather and share meals. You can stay in dormitory-style cabins, pitch your tent, or hook up an RV. Friday night's campfire will feature poetry and song (bring a contribution please!). Saturday night, rancher and conservation writer Linda Hasselstrom will address us after dinner and the membership meeting. See you in June!

SATURDAY FULL-DAY FIELD TRIPS

Long Pines/Capitol Rock: A driving tour on national forest roads with short hikes to explore the diversity of ecotypes and native plants of the region (easy).

Chalk Buttes: Hike through ponderosa pine forest and sandstone bluffs to the grassy top of the Chalk Buttes for a vista of surrounding plains and buttes. Hike 2-3 miles (more difficult).

Bell Tower Rock: Explore ponderosa pine savannah, grasslands and Sand Creek badland areas. Hike 4-5 miles on private and Forest lands (moderate).

Medicine Rocks State Park: Explore sandstone outcrops and discover the unique plant species found in the sandy, eolian environment of this state park (easy).

Finger Buttes ACEC: Hike badlands and slopes on BLM and private land. A xeric area with dwarf shrublands, desert vegetation, and unique geology. Hike 2-4 miles (moderate).

Laird Ranch/Crazy Woman Bison Ranch: Tour private grazing lands near Chalk Buttes. Observe approaches to grazing with bison and traditional cattle ranching on adjacent ranches. Visit with the owners to see how they manage a living from Montana's greatest sustainable resource: native prairie. Driving / walking (easy).

Powderville Road Plant Survey: Conduct a plant survey at selected locations in the Hell Creek Formation along Powderville Road for species of concern – *Eriogonum visherii* and *Physaria brassicoides* (moderate).

SATURDAY HALF-DAY TRIPS

Rimroad Tour in the Ekalaka Hills: Forest parkland, wildflower meadows, scenic vistas. Driving tour with short hikes.

Carter County Museum: On your own. Dinosaurs, cowboys and Indians. If this place isn't on your "Montana bucket list," it should be. Great for kids.

SUNDAY FIELD TRIPS - On the Way Home

Bannister Ranch: Located half way between Baker and Wibaux along Hwy 7. Explore woody draws and uplands. Observe the grazing management practices using the Savory grazing system.

Milton Ranch: Drive half-way home Sunday and camp at the Bill and Dana Milton Ranch northeast of Roundup, then tour the ranch on Monday before continuing homeward. Explore the diversity of landscapes and native vegetation found on this well-cared-for ranch.

AGENDA

Friday, June 17

- 3:00-6:00 Arrive, register
- 5:00-6:00 Social hour, field trip sign-up, silent auction/sales commence
- 6:00-7:30 Dinner – Wrap Bar (included)
- 7:00-8:00 Board of Directors meeting
- 8:00+ Campfire (poetry and songs by all)

Saturday, June 18

- 6:30-7:30 Breakfast (included)
- 8:00-4:30 Field trips (bring your own lunch)
- 4:00-6:00 Annual Wayne Phillips Plant ID Contest
- 6:00-7:00 Dinner - Pasta Bar (\$12)
- 7:00-8:00 General membership meeting
- 8:00-9:00 Speaker Linda Hasselstrom:
No Place Like a Prairie Home
- 9:00+ Silent auction and raffle awards

Sunday, June 19

- 7:00-8:00 Breakfast (included)
- 8:00-9:00 Committee meetings
- 9:00-11:00 Break camp, cleanup, farewells, field trips depart

Needmore Prairie: Register Early to Reserve Bunks/Sites and Save Money

Adult Registration (Ages 8+. Includes 2 continental breakfasts) Before June 1	_____ #	people	X \$50	\$ _____
Adult Registration (Ages 8+. Includes breakfasts) June 1 and later	_____ #	people	X \$55	\$ _____
Children (includes breakfasts) (ages 4-7) 3 and under free	_____ #	kids	X \$10	\$ _____
Saturday Only (no meals or camping)	_____ #	people	X \$15	\$ _____
Friday Dinner ("Build Your Own" Wrap Bar with fixings) Not available after June 10th	_____ #	people	X FREE	\$ _____
Saturday Dinner (Meat and veggie Pasta Bar, salad, dessert) Not available after June 10th	_____ #	people	X \$12	\$ _____
Saturday Child's Dinner (7 and under. Same menu) Not available after June 10th	_____ #	kids	X \$ 7	\$ _____
Bunkhouse – Women (single bed, dorm style). Bring your own bedding	_____ #	people	X FREE	\$ _____
Bunkhouse – Men (single bed, dorm style). Bring your own bedding	_____ #	people	X FREE	\$ _____
Bunkhouse – Couples (single beds, dorm style). Bring your own bedding	_____ #	people	X FREE	\$ _____
Bunkhouse – Families (single beds, dorm style). Bring your own bedding	_____ #	people	X FREE	\$ _____
Tent Camping. Access to bath house with showers. Vehicles must be left in parking lot.	_____ #	sites	X FREE	\$ _____
RV Site with electric hook up. Limit of 13 sites – reserve early! Price for 2 nights.	_____ #	sites	X \$20	\$ _____
			Total	\$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone (____) _____

I (we) agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Montana Native Plant Society (MNPS) and its board of directors and members against claims of liability, damages, and injury that may arise out of my (our) participation in MNPS activities at Camp Needmore and related field trips, June 17-19, 2011. **Signature(s)** _____

Make checks out to MNPS. Send payment and form to: MNPS, c/o Kathy Holte, 22 Silver Fox Rd, Outlook, MT, 59252.

Register and pay online with Paypal at www.mtnativeplants.org

Facility and Lodging: Camp Needmore (www.campneedmore.org) is a rustic camp featuring a spacious lodge with dining and meeting space, dormitory-style cabins (single beds, bring your own bedding and towel), a bath house with toilets and hot showers, a campfire circle, RV sites with electricity, and space for tent camping. Bring camp chairs for the fire. Sorry, no dogs in camp. Ekalaka (8 miles) has two small motels. Reserve early!

Meals: *Jane's Home Cookin* (Baker, MT) will cater our meals. Breakfasts (included in registration) will offer breads, spreads, yogurt, fruit, boiled eggs and beverages. Friday's dinner (courtesy of *Maka Flora*) will be a 'Build Your Own' **Wrap Bar** with grilled chicken breast, steamed veggies, cheeses, and all the fixings. Bring your own sack lunch for field trips. Saturday night we'll have a **Pasta Bar** with meat and vegetarian entrees, salad, garlic bread, and dessert (\$12). Happy Hour will be brought to you both evenings by *Maka Flora* with a variety of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. To reduce waste, please bring your favorite cup and water bottle. Please mail your dinner registration by June 10th.

Field Trips: Sign up starts on Friday at 5 pm. Since field trip sizes will be limited, please come early and be flexible. Bring your lunch, plenty of water, clothes for all weather, including rain gear, and hand lenses. **NO DOGS** on any field trips. For homework, read: *Botanical and Vegetation Survey of Carter County*: http://mtnhp.org/plants/reports/bnv_survey_cartercounty.pdf

STOP WEEDS!
To prevent the spread of noxious weeds, we are requiring that all vehicles coming to the meeting be washed thoroughly before arrival. Thank you for protecting our native plant communities.

Getting there: Camp Needmore is located near Ekalaka, Montana. From Ekalaka, take Highway 323 south for 5 miles. Turn right on Rimrock Carter Road for 3 miles to camp. Mileage to Ekalaka from: Kalispell - 651, Missoula - 603, Bozeman - 402, Great Falls - 441, Sidney - 160.

Questions? Contact Kathy at kholte@sheridanwb.com, 406-895-2676 or Beth at bethmadden64@gmail.com, 406-224-1012.
Updated info and registration with Paypal at www.mtnativeplants.org

SORRY, NO PETS IN CAMP



FROM: _____
_____(Place native flower label here)_____

Native
Flower
Stamp

TO: Montana Native Plant Society
Electoral College
133 N. Maple
Townsend, MT 59644

Fold Here

Fold Here

OFFICIAL 2011 MNPS ELECTION BALLOT

If you would rather e-mail your ballot to the MNPS Electoral College in Townsend, please logon to the MNPS website at www.mtnativeplants.org and look for the link to **2011 Elections!!** where there will be a link to the ballot. The MNPS Election Committee has received approval for the 9th year from the MNPS Board of Directors to award \$100 to the MNPS Chapter that has the largest percentage of voters. Please vote for the candidate of your choice, a write-in candidate, or yourself. Please indicate your Chapter affiliation or if you are a Western- or Eastern-at-Large member and not affiliated with a Chapter. All votes cast by June 1 will be compared with the June 1 membership roster for each Chapter. The Chapter that has the largest percentage of voters will receive a \$100 check from the MNPS Treasurer at the Annual Meeting on June 17-19 at Camp Needmore in the Ekalaka Hills. In case of a tie, the prize will be divided accordingly.

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

- DAVE HANNA**

Write-in candidate
-

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

- JENNY TOLLEFSON**

Write-in candidate
-

CANDIDATE FOR WESTERN REPRESENTATIVE-AT-LARGE

- JUDY HUTCHINS**

Write-in candidate
-

CHAPTER AFILIATION

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calypso | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelsey | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern-at-Large |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clark Fork | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Maka Flora | <input type="checkbox"/> Western-at-Large |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flathead | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Valley of Flowers | |
-

NUMBER OF PAID MEMBERS IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD _____

THE MNPS ELECTORAL COLLEGE THANKX YOU