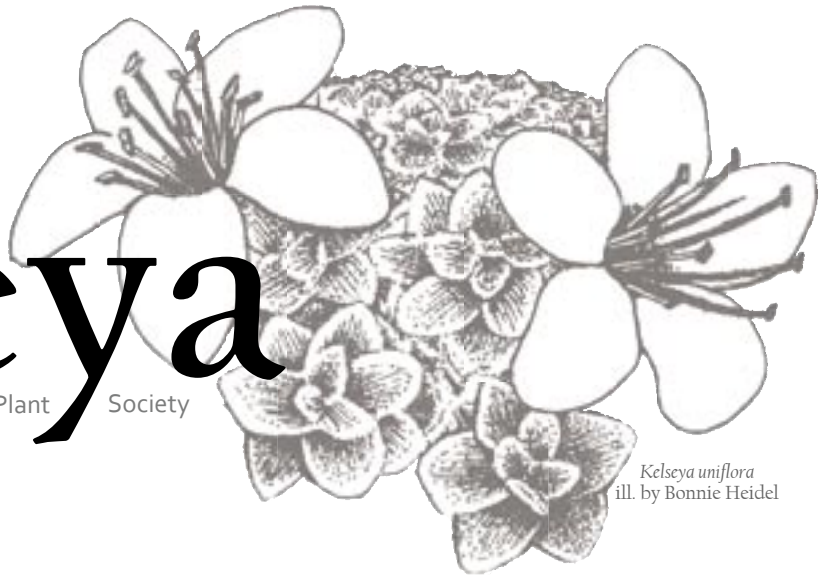
Kelseya
Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society



Kelseya uniflora
ill. by Bonnie Heidel

Montana's First Important Plant Area

MNPS Takes Lead on New Statewide Initiative

by Tara Carolin and Karen Shelly

Mount Reynolds Wetlands. Photo courtesy of Peter Lesica

In the middle of Glacier National Park lies a place that would cause the heart of any good botanist to flutter. Straddling the Continental Divide and surrounding the crest of the Going-to-the-Sun Road is a region that is home to nearly 30 different plant species that are rare in Montana. This spot, centered at Logan Pass, was given the honor of being designated as the first Important Plant Area (IPA) in the state of Montana by the Montana Native Plant Society IPA Species of Concern Committee at the Sixth Montana Plant Conservation Conference held in Missoula last February.

An Important Plant Area is a special designation modeled after Important Bird Areas identified by the Audubon Society, a global program to identify and conserve areas that are vital to birds and biodiversity. There are 37 Important Bird Areas currently recognized in Montana. Likewise, Important Plant Areas are a tool for identifying and highlighting sites on which to focus conservation actions, research and funding for plants and habitats. IPAs are not legal site designations, but are a listing of botanically and ecologically significant areas deserving attention.

The IPA concept first began in Europe as a strategy to meet the target set by the United Nations Environment Programme Convention on Biological Diversity to protect fifty percent of Europe's most important plant diversity areas. Plantlife International, an environmental organization, has been primarily responsible for IPA implementation, and IPAs have been adopted by many countries and a number of states in the U.S. (See www.plantlife.org.uk/international/plantlife-ipas.html and www.plantsocieties.org/importan.htm.) IPAs are intended to be part of a wider conservation landscape, forming integral parts of ecological networks and management regimes, and acting as centers for habitat and species restoration.

In Montana, a species of concern-based IPA must contain at least one globally rare species with a conservation status of G1 (*critically imperiled*), G2 (*imperiled*) or G3 (*vulnerable*); OR it must contain at least three state-sensitive species, ranked S1 (*extremely limited*) or S2 (*very limited*) by the Montana Natural Heritage Program. More detail on criteria can be found in the Important Plant Areas Nomination Form, online at www.mtnativeplants.org/45. In addition, an MNPS IPA Plant Communities Committee will review sites that are outstanding examples of habitat or vegetation types of global or regional botanical importance. More information on this program will be forthcoming on our

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Chapter Events

Calypso Chapter

April 3—Third Annual Gardening with Natives and Heirlooms Workshop. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Join us for this free event sponsored by the Calypso Chapter and the Big Hole Watershed Committee. Speakers include Kathy Settevendemie, "Beyond Sagebrush and Bunchgrass;" David Schmetterling, "Using Native Plants to Create Habitat for Wildlife and a Sustainable Garden;" Todd Breitenfeldt, "How To Do Biological Control of Weeds;" and Cindy Owings, Rikki and Jon Scott, "Gardening with a Short Season." Heirloom flower and garden seed packets will be for sale, along with plant books, bee motels and native plants. Meet at the Divide Grange Hall in Divide (one mile west of Hwy 43, off I-15). Bring a sack lunch; coffee, tea, water and cookies will be provided. Space is limited; reservations required. Info: Catherine Cain, (406) 498-6198 or nativeplants@montana.com.

Clark Fork Chapter

April 8—Montana's High Mountain Wildflowers, 7:30 p.m. After being in Glacier Park for last summer's Annual Meeting, Clark Fork Chapter photographers can help you bone up for this summer. Meet in Room L09, Gallagher Business Building, UM Campus

May 13—Annual Spring Potluck, 6:30 p.m. Bring your own utensils and a dish to share. Meet at the home of Mike Young, 529 Evan Kelly Rd. Go north on Duncan Dr., third street on right after top of hill. House is at the end of the cul-de-sac.

Flathead Chapter

April 21—Discovering the Jewels in the Crown: A Century of Botany in Glacier National Park, 7:00 p.m. Official Glacier Centennial Event. Botanists have been finding new plant species in Glacier for the past 150 years. Come imagine what it would be like to explore a new flora in a pristine wilderness. Presented by Peter Lesica. Meet at Glacier Discovery Square, 340 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls. Chapter planning/business meeting precedes the event at 5:30 p.m.

May 3-7—Flathead Forestry Expo. MNPS and Flathead Forest botanists will again have a plant identification education station for 5th grade students. We need volunteers to spend a few hours at the station, one or more days. You will be paired with an experienced presenter. We have an easy to follow lesson plan for 20 minute presentations as classes cycle through. Info: Betty, (406) 892-0129 or bkuropat@centurytel.net.

May-June: Bigfork Wild Mile Corridor Wildflower Walks, Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.-noon. Join botanist Anne Morley for easy, 2-mile walks along the Old Swan River Road to identify spring wildflowers. Meet in front of Showthyme restaurant in Bigfork. Info: Anne, (406) 886-2242.

May 18—Work Day at Glacier Discovery Square, 5:30 p.m. MNPS volunteers continue to revitalize the native plant landscaping around the Square in downtown Columbia Falls. Activities will include prepping beds, planting native plants and general garden clean-up. Meet at Glacier Discovery Square, 340 Nucleus Avenue. Info: Terry, (406) 387-5527.

May 19—Plant Succession After Fire, 5:30 p.m. Learn about plant species associated with different stages of post-fire forest succession. Join Steve Wirt, fire ecologist, photographer and botanist, on easy hikes along the North Fork Rd. Meet at Glacier Discovery Square in Columbia Falls. Info: Betty, (406) 892-0129 or bkuropat@centurytel.net.

May 23—Columbia Mountain Field Trip, 5:30 p.m. Join Glacier National Park Ecologist Tara Carolin and botanist Rachel Potter on a 2-hour evening walk up the Columbia Mountain trail. Enjoy spring and early summer blooms along the forested trail, which also offers lovely rock outcrops in the sunshine. Although the trail can be a little steep in places, the pace will be slow and we will be going only a few miles at most. Meet at the Columbia Mountain parking lot and trailhead. Bring a sack supper if you like. Info: Rachel, (406) 892-2446.

June 2—Native Plant Gardening Tour, 7:00 p.m. Native plant gardener Bill McClaren leads a tour of the Flathead Valley Community College and Central School Museum Native Plant Gardens. Meet at FVCC, behind Blake Hall. If it is raining, meet inside Blake Hall. Tour is wheelchair accessible. Info: Bill, (406) 257-2540 or mccl@bresnan.net.

June 5—Johnson Mountain Terraces, 9:00 a.m. Enjoy a 3-4 mile, cross-country hike along moist, mossy rock terraces with a variety of diminutive plants. Bring lunch and water; sign-up required. Meet at the rest area at the soccer fields across from Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish. Info: Betty, (406) 892-0129.

June 15-August 24—Volunteer Opportunity at the Glacier National Park Nursery, Tuesdays. Help with seeding, transplanting, weeding and cleaning, or work on a particular research project. Bring a sack lunch, your favorite work gloves, and clothes that can tolerate dirt. Drop in and work an hour or stay the entire day. Meet at the Native Plant Nursery at Glacier National Park. Info: Joyce Lapp, (406) 888-7817.

Kelsey Chapter

April 15—Discovering the Jewels in the Crown: A Century of Botany in Glacier National Park, 6:30 p.m. Peter Lesica, botanist and author, presents this talk that is free and open to the public. Jointly sponsored by the Kelsey Chapter and the Montana Historical Society. Meet at the Historical Society, 225

North Roberts. Info: (406) 449-6586. Come early and enjoy the museum's new exhibit, "Land of Many Stories: The People and Histories of Glacier National Park."

Maka Flora Chapter

For chapter happenings, contact Beth Madden at (406) 789-7266 or bethmadden64@gmail.com.

Valley of the Flowers Chapter

Chapter meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in Room 108, Plant BioSciences Bldg, MSU Campus. For chapter happenings, contact Joanne Jennings at (406) 586-9585 or jojen@bresnan.net.

April 13—"Wildflowers of the Southwest," presented by Sharon Eversman.

April 24—Clean Up Bozeman, 9:00 a.m. Bring gloves and weed diggers to help with spring clean up. Meet at the cut area on Kagy Blvd.

Welcome New Members

The Montana Native Plant Society welcomes the following new members:

Calypso Chapter: Danna Harrison

Flathead Chapter: Carmen Wyman, Joyce Lapp, Laura Law, Chantelle DeLay and Linda Quinby

Clark Fork Chapter: Jessie Dwyer, Eva Masin, Cedar Brant, Nancy McIver, Steffany Rogge-Kindseth, Art & Nancy Callan (lifetime member)

Valley of Flowers Chapter: Jon Siddoway (lifetime member)

Kelsey Chapter: Gardenwerks

State Eastern-at-large: Maria T. Valencia

Source Guide Online

The landscaping committee has updated the Source Guide for Native Plants, a directory of nurseries that carry native plants in Montana and surrounding states. It is posted on the MNPS website at www.mtnativeplants.org. Additions and edits are always appreciated. Please send them to kathy@blackfootnativeplants.com.

President's Platform

As we emerge from winter, it appears El Nino left western Montana short on snowpack while the rest of the state fared a little better. Soon our first wildflowers will appear, and after that our trees and shrubs will show us how they coped after the unusual freeze last fall. Not too long after that, summer will be here and it will be time for the MNPS Annual Meeting. This year we'll convene in the Pioneer Mountains outside of Dillon. As always it will be a great time, so make plans to join us— don't forget to vote in our annual election!

It was no idle winter for MNPS, with a successful Plant Conservation Conference, inauguration of the MNPS Important Plant Areas program, chapter activities and lots of fresh stuff on our website, including the new edition of the Native Plant Source Guide.

A big thanks to Peter Lesica and all the volunteers who made the Plant Conservation Conference a success, and to Kathy Settevendemie and all the volunteers on the Landscaping Committee who put the Source Guide together! You'll see info on lots of other current happenings in this newsletter.

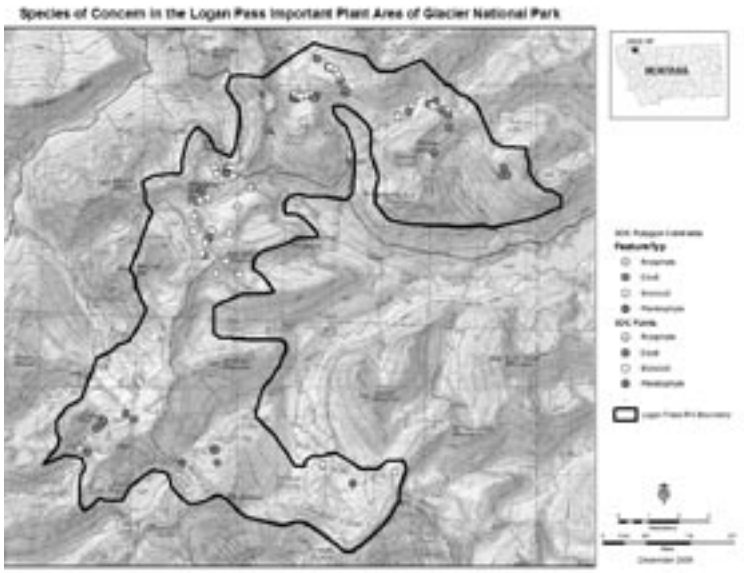
One final business note:we are looking for someone to take over the Treasurer position on our board. If you have any ideas or interest, please let me know.

Enjoy Spring!

~ Dave Hanna

website and future Kelseya newsletters.

The Logan Pass Important Plant Area harbors an exceptional number of peripheral and disjunct arctic-alpine plants at the southern edge of their geographic range. Located at the headwaters of the St. Mary River, the site covers 26,770 acres (less than 3% of Glacier National Park), ranging in elevation from 5,100 feet along Reynolds Creek north of Heavy Runner Mountain to 10,000 feet on Mount Siyeh. The boundary was drawn to include high subalpine and alpine communities that provide habitat for many rare plant species, mostly excluding forested areas, resulting in an oddly shaped polygon (see figure). While there are numerous rare plant populations in Glacier, the Logan Pass region is a particular hot spot due to a wide diversity of habitats, including alpine meadows, wetlands, turf, hanging gardens, fellfields, moist and dry dwarf shrublands and more. Here you can find eight globally rare species and 27 different state S1 or S2 species representing about 30% of the state listed species found in the park. In a number of cases, such as *Gentiana glauca (*glaucous gentian*)*, *Lycopodium lagopus (*running pine*)*, and *Draba macounii (*Macoun's draba*)*, not only is it the best place in Montana to view these species, it is the only place. Logan Pass is home to the world's largest known population of *Carex plectocarpa* (goose-grass sedge), and it is the only known Montana location for four of the seven rare moss species found within the IPA.



We hope that Logan Pass will be the first of many IPAs in Montana. There are many special areas across the state that qualify for designation. If you have a favorite site you believe is worthy of statewide recognition, we encourage you to submit a nomination. Watch for instructions and a nomination form to be posted on the MNPS website (www.mtnativeplants.org/Native_Plant_Conservation) and send your nomination to Peter Lesica at peter.lesica@mso.umt.edu.

Thanks to Peter Lesica for initiating the Logan Pass IPA nomination and to Glacier National Park Geographer, Richard Menicke, for the GIS work and maps.

2010 Small Grant Recipients

by Linda Lyon, Small Grants Committee Chair

The Montana Native Plant Society Small Grant Committee received four well-written proposals for 2010. Given an increase in the small grant budget, we were able to fund two proposals at $1,000 each. Eva S. Masin, a master's degree candidate in Resource Conservation, College of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Montana, will be researching the question, "Can Sheep Control Leafy Spurge Without Compromising Efforts to Restore Native Plants?" Her project will test the effects of sheep grazing on four herbaceous plants commonly found in Palouse prairie ecosystems.

The second funded proposal was for a native plant garden project submitted by Joshua Slotnick, Farm Director, Garden City Harvest, University of Montana-Missoula PEAS farm. This project will allow for a native plant garden to be added to the established PEAS farm to contribute to its biodiversity and enhance its commitment t o ecological management.

Congratulations to the winners; we look forward to learning about the successes of your efforts with native plants!

Checklist of Montana Vascular Plants

by Scott Mincemoyer

This winter the Montana Natural Heritage Program released a draft checklist of Montana vascular plants that includes more than 2,500 species documented or reported for the state, and more than 2,700 total taxa. This comprehensive state-wide checklist provides common names and synonyms for each species, as well as global and state conservation ranks and the species' origin in the state (native or exotic). Future editions will include the wetland indicator status ranks for each species. The checklist will be updated once or twice a year to reflect changes in taxonomy, nomenclature, status ranks, and to incorporate additions and deletions to the list as new information on the flora of Montana becomes available. By the time this newsletter is in your hands, an updated version should be posted on-line. To view or download a copy of the checklist, visit http://mtnhp.org/plants/default.asp Questions, comments and suggestions concerning the checklist are welcome and should be directed to Scott at smincemoyer@mt.gov.

Consider the Dandelion Before You Dig

by Peter Lesica

The nice elderly woman living across the street from me hates dandelions and hires a local landscape company to herbicide her lawn so she never has any. On the other hand, I kind of like dandelions with their cheery yellow flowers announcing the end of winter. Much has been written about their culinary and medicinal uses, and there is reason to believe that dandelion seeds were intentionally carried to the New World on the Mayflower. The leafless flower stalks elongate greatly when mature, always releasing an abundance of seeds just ready to colonize any bare spot (and there are many) in my lawn.

There's a reason dandelions are such prolific seed producers. Our common weedy dandelions produce hundreds of flowers that are agamospermous—that is, they produce seeds in the absence of any pollination. Male parts of the flowers are superfluous for seed production. The pollen is sterile and in some cases isn't even produced. The plants have no need to worry about the vagaries of insects or wind for pollination. Every one of those flowers in these asexual plants produces a viable seed.

This mode of seed production has some interesting consequences. For one thing it means that clones (populations of genetically identical and morphologically constant plants) may occur in one field, or across a continent. Jennifer Lyman, an MNPS member and teacher at Rocky Mountain College, sampled 500 dandelion plants from 22 populations across the U.S. and found 47 different clones. Most clones were restricted to one location, but one clone was found in 19 sites.

Some dandelion clones are morphologically distinctive enough that they become recognized as separate species (often called microspecies) by some taxonomists. This wouldn't be a problem if there were only a few distinctive dandelion clones, but there are thousands. New clones are produced in two ways: mutations and reorganization of chromosomes during seed formation, or rare crossing between sexual and asexual parents. Probably most of these newly formed asexual plants appear identical to the clonal parent, but some can be recognized as different and the result is daunting. Dandelion taxonomists recognize about 2,000 species in Europe and as many as 250 in Alaska. New species are being described nearly every year.

North American taxonomists generally have been much more conservative. The recent treatment in *Flora of North America* (Oxford University Press) recognizes 15 species, and just four of these occur in Montana. Two are native species occurring in the mountains of North America (*Taraxacum scopulorum* = *T. lyratum* and *T. ceratophorum* including *T. eriophyllum*). The other two are the widespread weeds we all are so familiar with. That's right; there are two species not just one!

For many years I called them all "common" dandelion (*T. officinale*), and so have most of my plant ecologist friends. Common dandelion has olive-green seeds and the leaves usually (but not always) have a large, unlobed terminal portion. "Red-seeded" dandelion (*T. laevigatum*) has brick-red seeds and leaves lobed to the tip (see illustration). Some dandelion taxonomists think these two forms are actually clusters of microspecies, but only a few of these segregates have been named.

I first noticed the difference between the two dandelion types in my neighborhood where they occur in different habitats. Part of my yard is cool and shaded and supports only common dandelion. Another area is on a steep, west-facing slope with stony soil, and both species of dandelions are found there. All the dandelions on the nearby dry hillside are red-seeded. They seem like two species to me because the seed color and habitat preference are strongly correlated. However, the late Ronald Taylor at Western Washington University thought otherwise. He conducted a study that he believed showed that characteristics of red-seeded dandelion are induced by a harsh environment. I am dubious, because the seed color seems like an unlikely character to change with environmental stress.

However, there is no question that dandelions are capable of large changes in appearance in response to the environment (phenotypic plasticity). For example, Otto Solbrig and his students found that common dandelions exposed to frequent mowing (not mine) hold their leaves flatter to the ground than those that are unmowed. But dandelions have not yet figured out how to avoid the digger purchased at your local hardware store. This spring you can check out the dandelions of grasslands and yards near you and see if you think there really are two species (before you dig them up).

Lyman, J. C. and N. C. Ellstrand. 1984. Clonal diversity in *Taraxacum officinale* (Compositae), an apomict. Heredity 53: 1-10.

Solbrig, O. T. 1971. The population biology of dandelions. American Scientist 59: 686-694.

Taylor, R. J. 1987. Population and biosystematic interpretations in weedy dandelions. Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club 114: 109-120.

2009 Small Grant Recipients

Backyard Conservation: Evaluation of Montana native perennials for water savings, pollinator attraction

By Tracy Dougher and Casey Delphia

Using native plants in home landscapes, along with the removal of invasive, noxious and water-hogging non-natives, is important to the conservation of native plants in Montana. In addition, including pollinator-friendly natives in home landscaping may aid in conserving insect pollinators, such as bees, that play a vital role in plant reproduction. By knowing the water requirements of native perennials, what to expect from their growth habits and bloom, and about the type and number of pollinators they attract, we can begin to educate homeowners and landscapers about suitable replacement native plants for residential landscapes. Native landscaping not only is a better ecological fit with our natural surroundings, but helps us understand and appreciate our environment more.

With funding provided by the Montana Native Plant Society Small Grants Program, we began a multi-year research project in the spring of 2009. The goals of our project are to provide both basic research and a demonstration garden that highlights the benefits of Montana native perennials in home landscapes. Specifically, we are interested in 1) the water savings potential of Montana native perennials and 2) their attractiveness to insect pollinators, in particular, bees. This project is intended to be on-going and here we report our accomplishments for 2009 and our plans for 2010.

Bed construction

Our main goal in the first year was to establish the gardens. In May we constructed an 8,400 square foot planting site at the Bozeman Agricultural Research and Teaching Farm at Montana State University. The site consists of 12 rectangular beds (approximately 7 feet by 100 feet long) with a two-foot-wide path between each bed. These 12 beds comprise the four watering treatments (0, ¼, ½ and full supplementation) with three replications of each watering treatment. Within each bed are 32 small plots (approximately 2 feet by 4 feet) for each of 32 different plant species within each watering treatment. While we planned to start with five to 10 plant species in the first year, we created extra plots to add plant species in future years. We installed a drip irrigation system for all of the planting beds that is fully automated and allows us to control the amount of water each bed receives.

Initial native plant establishment

Because of the large number of plants needed for this project (3 plants per plot x 12 beds = 36 of each species), our initial goal was to plant five to 10 species to test the system. In May 2009, we seeded blanket flower (*Gaillardia aristata*) and sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*). Alumroot (*Huechera parvifolia*) and tufted evening primrose (*Oenothera caespitosa*) plants propagated from the Anaconda superfund site in 4" pots, were obtained in June from SMK Plants. All four native species and a non-native lupine (*Lupinus angustifolius*) were planted in June and July. The non-native was included to confirm the accuracy of the watering system and will be removed this spring. The remainder of the summer and fall of 2009, we focused on keeping the plots free of weeds, testing the watering system and securing more plant materials for spring 2010.

Growing and securing plant material for 2010

In October 2009, students in Dr. Dougher's "Tough Plants in Tough Places" class were assigned a Montana native plant to research. Each student was expected to learn how each species is adapted to Montana's "tough" conditions and its seeding requirements. Students then treated (scarified, stratified, etc.) 23 native Montana species. Of those species planted, the following thrived and have been grown in 4" pots: Canada wildrye (*Elymus canadensis*),basin wildrye (*Leymus cinereus*),black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), prickly poppy (*Argemone albiflora*),prairie coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*),Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*), silvery lupine (*Lupinus argenteus*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and blue columbine (*Aquilegia coerulea*).

Dr. Delphia seeded and propagated the following species successfully into 4" pots: bee balm (*Monarda fistulosa*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Wyoming kittentails (*Besseya wyomingensis*), prairie smoke (*Geum triflorum*) and cut-leaf anemone (*Anemone multifida*). All of the above plant material is now being held in a vernalization room at 4°C until the month prior to

transplantation. For further student experience, the students in Dr. Dougher's "Plant Propagation" class will be researching the capability and requirements of cuttings (cloning) for the prairie coneflower, columbine and bee balm to increase plant material.

In February 2010, Drs. Dougher and Delphia obtained seed from the Bridger Plant Materials Center in Bridger, MT, and seeded 4" pots of: white prairie clover (*Dalea candida*), purple prairie clover (*Dalea purpurea*) and silverleaf phacelia (*Phacelia hastata*).

Grower Terry Divoky, Windflower Native Plant Nursery, has been contracted to produce 2-3" pots of: pasqueflower (*Anemone patens*), red columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*), heartleaf arnica (*Arnica cordifolia*), showy aster (*Aster conspicuus*), narrow-leaved purple coneflower (*Echinacea angustifolia*), sticky geranium (*Geranium viscosissimum*), Lyall's penstemon (*Penstemon lyallii*), Alberta penstemon (*Penstemon albertinus*), silky phacelia (*Phacelia sericea*) and narrow-petaled sedum (*Sedum stenopetalum*).

Final transplanting and data collection

Transplanting of all species will take place in late May 2010. All told, we have 27 native species that will be ready to plant. Throughout the summer 2010, data will be collected on the effect of watering treatment on plant establishment, plant size, bloom number and size, and on the attractiveness of plant species to bee pollinators. We also will record species survival information for winter 2010-11.

Garden viewing and tours

We have signs for the plots, which will be posted at planting time. The gardens will be open officially for tours and viewing in June 2010. Please contact Dr. Dougher at tracyaod@montana.edu to schedule a guided tour!

Vote Early (and Just Once): Nominees for MNPS Board of Directors

by Patrick Plantenberg

It's MNPS voting time again! Three positions on the Board of Directors need to be renewed and three awesome incumbents have agreed to run, again, for another two-year term. However, you can choose to write-in another name, or yourself! Please mark the enclosed ballot and return it to MNPS via snail mail or email no later than July 31. Remember, there is a $100 prize for the chapter with the greatest percentage of voters! And the nominees are:

Karen Shelly (Vice President)—Karen has been Vice-President for three years. She is a member of the Clark Fork Chapter in Missoula, and a graduate student in Geography at the University of Montana. In addition to working on her thesis, Karen works for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. She is compiling a state-wide Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) map for DNRC's Fire and Aviation Bureau.

Pat Plantenberg (Secretary)—Pat has been MNPS Secretary since the dawn of man. He is older than dirt and therefore wields great influence over the Kelsey Chapter in Helena, as well as governing activities in Townsend, where he lives and is civic-minded. Pat is the official MNPS Election Committee humorist, and in his spare time is a reclamation specialist with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

H. Wayne Phillips (Eastern Representative At-Large)—Wayne has been the eastern representative for several terms. He has been a monumental MNPS presence, serving as President and Secretary, and as the long-standing leader of the unofficial chapter in Great Falls. He is retired as a U.S. Forest Service ecologist and now teaches about the flora of the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains for various institutions. He has also written three field guides and conducted innumerable MNPS programs and field trips. At Annual Meetings, Wayne is responsible for the popular plant ID contest and the ad hoc committee tht performs Poems and Songs of the Plant World.

Annual Meeting: Pioneer Plants

Mark your calendars for the 2010 MNPS Annual Meeting at the Birch Creek Center, Pioneer Mountains, July 16-18. The Calypso Chapter has organized a fabulous weekend of plant exploration in southwestern Montana. There will be a variety of field trips to satisfy everyone's level of experience. The Birch Creek Center is a large and spacious facility that formerly functioned as a Civil Conservation Corps (CCC) site in the 1930s. Bunk style housing is available in the facility/cabins, or you can opt for tent or RV camping. Delicious breakfasts and dinners will be available. No food preparation is allowed outside the center's closed kitchen, other than individual lunch preparations. The center will be open at 3 p.m. on Friday, July 16, for registration confirmation, bunk assignments, meal tickets, site selection for tents and RV's and field trip sign-up. Friday's campfire will feature Lee Harry discussing the "Columbus Tree" and the impacts of pine bark beetle and spruce budworm on our forests. Saturday evening's program will feature Andrea Sterile and her ethnobotanical work with Montana native plants, and our silent auction—so come prepared to support the Montana Native Plant Society! No pets are allowed at Birch Creek or on any of the hikes. See insert for registration and field trip details. See you in July!

July 17, Saturday: 1/2 Day events

ID 101 Led by Kathy Settevendemie
Birch Creek Weed Pull Service Project
Birch Creek Native Garden Service Project

July 17, Saturday: Full Day Trips

Easy	Vipond Park led by Mike Garverich
	Photographing Wildflowers led by Steve Sherman
	Bitterroots and Birch Creek led by Wayne Phillips
	Dinner Station Family Hike led by Sheila Thompson
Moderate	Black Lion led by Eve Wills
	Rochester Basin led by Paul Sawyer
	Signal Mountain led by Bob Wolley
	Photography on the Trail led by Tracy Grazley
Strenuous	Mount Baldy led by Rich Prodgers
	Hecla Mine Area led by Peter Lesica
	Agnes Lake Bog led by Steve Shelly
	Tendoy Lake Hike led by Jack Kirkley in conjunction with MWA

Friday July 16
3:00-6:00 Arrive, Register
5:00-6:00 Social hour, field trip, sign-up
6:00-7:00 Dinner
7:00-8:00 Board of Directors meeting, Grass ropes game
8:00-9:00 Campfire talk

Saturday July 17
7:00-8:00 Breakfast
8:30-4:30 Field trips
4:00-6:00 Annual Wayne Phillips plant ID contest, Botany card games
6:00-7:00 Dinner, Silent auction
7:00-8:00 Membership meeting
8:00-9:00 Evening Presentation

Sunday July 18
7:00-8:00 Breakfast
8:00-9:00 Committee Meetings
9:00-11:00 Break camp, clean up, farewells, field trips depart

July 18, Sunday: Short hikes or things to do on the way home

Jefferson River Edibles led by Tom Elpel
Flora of the Big Hole National Battlefield led by John Pierce
Visit to Southwest Montana Native Landscapes, Catherine Cain, Glen, MT

MNPS 2009 BUDGET SUMMARY: 01/04/10

	Proposed Inc.	Income	Proposed Exp.	Expenses	Proposed Var.	Variance
GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES						
Membership	*$7,300.00*	**$10,015.25**	*($700.00)*	($233.30)	*$6,600.00*	**$9,781.95**
Newsletter	*$0.00*	**$0.00**	*($5,500.00)*	($5,441.24)	*($5,500.00)*	($5,441.24)
Operating Budget	*$450.00*	**$452.05**	*($1,275.00)*	($508.54)	*($825.00)*	($56.49)
Interest Income	*$150.00*	$47.41	*$0.00*	$0.00		
Operating Expenses	*$0.00*	$0.00	*$0.00*	($15.00)		
Board Expenses	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($200.00)*	$0.00		
Donations	*$300.00*	$404.64	*$0.00*	$0.00		
Awards	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($450.00)*	($140.00)		
Committees	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($100.00)*	($5.04)		
Publications	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($175.00)*	$0.00		
Website	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($350.00)*	($348.50)		
GOE TOTALS	*$7,750.00*	**$10,467.30**	*($7,475.00)*	($6,183.08)	*$275.00*	**$4,284.22**
SPECIAL PROJECTS						
Projects:	*$0.00*	**$0.00**	*($3,350.00)*	($3,050.00)	*($3,350.00)*	($3,050.00)
Friends of Herbarium	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($300.00)*	($300.00)		
MT Audubon	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($300.00)*	($300.00)		
Small Grants Fund	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($1,000.00)*	($1,000.00)		
Rare Plant Conference	*$0.00*	$0.00	*$0.00*	$0.00		
Chapter Project: Townsend	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($500.00)*	($500.00)		
Chapter Project: Flathead	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($450.00)*	($450.00)		
Powerpoint Projector	*$0.00*	$0.00	*($800.00)*	($500.00)		
Annual Meeting:	*$4,150.00*	**$11,870.57**	*($5,000.00)*	($5,017.20)	*($850.00)*	**$6,853.37**
Annual Meeting 2009	*$4,000.00*	$11,820.57	*($5,000.00)*	($5,017.20)		
Merchandise sales from prev. mtgs	*$150.00*	$50.00	*$0.00*	$0.00		
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	*$4,150.00*	**$11,870.57**	*($8,350.00)*	($8,067.20)	*($4,200.00)*	**$3,803.37**
TOTALS	*$11,900.00*	**$22,337.87**	*($15,825.00)*	($14,250.28)	*($3,925.00)*	**$8,087.59**

Prepared by: M. Renwyck, MNPS Treasurer

MNPS 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY: 02/28/10

	Proposed Inc.	Income	*Proposed Exp.*	Expenses	*Proposed Var.*	Variance
GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES						
Membership	***$7,500.00***	**$5,638.00**	***($200.00)***	**$0.00**	***$7,300.00***	**$5,638.00**
Newsletter	***$0.00***	**$0.00**	***($6,500.00)***	**($1,233.62)**	***($6,500.00)***	**($1,233.62)**
Operating Budget	***$400.00***	**$0.00**	***($2,450.00)***	**$0.00**	***($2,050.00)***	**$0.00**
Interest Income	*$100.00*		*$0.00*			
Operating Expenses	*$0.00*		*$0.00*			
Board Expenses	*$0.00*		*($200.00)*			
Donations	*$300.00*		*$0.00*			
Awards	*$0.00*		*($400.00)*			
Committees	*$0.00*		*$0.00*			
Publications	*$0.00*		*($1,500.00)*			
Website	*$0.00*		*($350.00)*			
GOE TOTALS	***$7,900.00***	**$5,638.00**	***($9,150.00)***	**($1,233.62)**	***($1,250.00)***	**$4,404.38**
SPECIAL PROJECTS						
Projects:	***$1,950.00***	**$0.00**	***($4,150.00)***	**$0.00**	***($2,200.00)***	**$0.00**
Friends of Herbarium	*$0.00*		*($300.00)*			
Small Grants Fund	*$0.00*		*($2,000.00)*			
Plant Conservation Conference	*$1,950.00*		*($1,350.00)*			
Chapter Project: open	*$0.00*		*($500.00)*			
Annual Meeting:	***$4,050.00***	**$0.00**	***($5,000.00)***	**$0.00**	***($950.00)***	**$0.00**
Annual Meeting 2009	*$4,000.00*		*($5,000.00)*			
Merchandise sales from prev. mtgs	*$50.00*		*$0.00*			
SPECIAL PROJECTS TOTALS	***$6,000.00***	**$0.00**	***($9,150.00)***	**$0.00**	***($3,150.00)***	**$0.00**
TOTALS	***$13,900.00***	**$5,638.00**	***($18,300.00)***	**($1,233.62)**	***($4,400.00)***	**$4,404.38**

Prepared by: M. Renwyck, MNPS Treasurer

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=Calypso; 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.**

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 *Kelseya* 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_____
If you wish to be affiliated with a chapter (see above), list it here_____

You will receive membership acknowledgement by email, as well as a pdf of the most recent Kelseya*. Future newsletter issues will arrive by mail.*

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	----------

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Montana Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 8783
Missoula, MT 59807-8783

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 communites 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 *Kelseya,* 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 Kelseya Editor, 645 Beverly Avenue, Missoula, MT, 59801.

Changes of address, inquiries about membership, and general correspondence should be sent to MNPS Membership, P.O. Box 8783, Missoula, MT 59807-8783.

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–Decemeber 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 *Kelseya* for friends or family, call the Newsletter Editor, write to the above address, or email: carokurtz@gmail.com

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	Marlene Renwyck	email: mrenwyck@gmail.com	
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	Betty Kuropat	Columbia Falls	892-0129
Kelsey Chapter	Kathy Lloyd	Helena	449-6586
Maka Flora Chapter	Rebecca Kallevig	Sidney	488-5455
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! MNPS Membership, 398 Jeffers Road, Ennis, MT 59729

Montana Native Plant Society
Membership Chair
398 Jeffers Road
Ennis, MT 59729

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Pioneer Plants Annual Meeting Registration Form
Montana Native Plant Society
July 16-18, 2010
Birch Creek Center, Pioneer Mountains, Montana

Logistics:

Registration	____# adults x $25	___kids x $10	$_____
Saturday Only (no meals or camping)	____# adults x $10	___kids x $ 5	$_____
Friday Dinner Adult *(Taco bar with meat, veggie beans, toppings)*	____# adults x $11	___kids x $ 8	$_____
Saturday Breakfast (Substantial continental breakfast)	____# adults x $ 8	___kids x $ 5	$_____
Saturday Dinner (Veggie lasagna, bread, salad, dessert)	____# adults x $11	___kids x $ 8	$_____
Sunday Breakfast (Substantial continental breakfast)	____# adults x $ 8	___kids x $ 5	$_____
Bunk style housing in group cabins*	____# adults x $22	___kids x $12	$_____
RV (no water or hook-up) or Tent camping/site*	____# sites x $15		$_____
Total			$_____

*Please note that accommodations/campsites/RV sites require advanced reservations.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

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 the MNPS activities at the Birch Creek Center and related field trips, July 16-18, 2010.

Signature _____

Make checks payable to the MNPS. Send payment and form to: MNPS, c/o Delena Norris-Tull, 312 S. Washington Street, Dillon, MT 59725. All reservations must be postmarked or electronically submitted no later than June 23, 2010.

Facility and Lodging: The Birch Creek Outdoor Education Center is located within the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in the East Pioneer Mountains. The Center was originally constructed as a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp. Today, the Birch Creek Center provides a place for diverse educational, recreational, and social opportunities for the local and global community. The Center encourages and supports field-based and group enriching experiences, thus enhancing educational opportunities for the young, traditional, and lifelong learners. Please plan to bring your own towels, linens, pillows and blankets.

Field Trips: Sign ups begin on Friday at 3pm. Most field trips and service project activities will be limited to 15 participants, please come early and be flexible. Bring your lunch, plenty of water, clothes for all weather, including rain gear, and hand lenses. Full descriptions and field trip updates will be available on the Friday evening before the hikes. The Calypso Chapter representatives have worked hard to provide you with a large variety of hikes from full day strenuous treks to family walks. Particular hikes have also been designed to help you better your photography skills, plant identification or allow you to help with service project designed for the Pioneer Mountains.

Getting There: The Birch Creek facility is located off the I-15 Apex exit 22 miles northwest of Dillon, Montana.
From the north on I-15: take the Apex exit and turn right. You will see a signs for the conference at that point. Continue on this dirt road for approximately 20 minutes until you see signs for the Birch Creek Center on the left.

From the south on I-15: take the Apex exit and turn left. You will see a signs for the conference at that point. Continue on this dirt road for approximately 20 minutes until you see signs for the Birch Creek Center on the left.

Birch Creek has a no pets on the premises policy. We also request that pets are not taken on any of the field trips.

Questions:Contact Catherine Cain at 406-498-6198 nativeplants@montana.com or Linda Lyon at 406-683-2878 or l_lyon@umwestern.edu.