



KELSEYA

NEWSLETTER of the MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FRANCIS KELSEY...and KELSEYA

As part of the celebration of our tenth year of existence, we are reprinting two articles: the description of our "mascot" plant, *Kelseya uniflora*, which first appeared in Vol 1, Number 2, the Winter 1988 issue; and the biographical sketch of Francis Kelsey, which was in the Summer '88 issue, Vol 1, Number 4. Both were written by Peter Lesica, one of the hardworking organizers of MNPS, and a frequent contributor to KELSEYA. Peter was one of two members who nominated *Kelseya* as our newsletter's mascot, along with Greg Fraser of Ronan, back in early 1988. The MNPS chapter based in the Helena area honors Kelsey's contributions to the state's flora by taking his name.

Kelseya uniflora (Watson) Rydberg is an intricately branched, mat-forming, partially evergreen shrub in the Rose family (Rosaceae). It has small reddish purple flowers which are produced very early in the spring. *Kelseya* is most often found growing from cracks in limestone cliffs where it forms mats which cover the cliff faces like patches of thick, green tapestry.

Kelseya is locally common in the mountains east of the Continental Divide, from the Little Belt Mountains near Great Falls and the Front Range west of Augusta, south to the Centennial Mountains and the Beartooth Mountains on the southern border of Montana. It is currently known from Beaverhead, Big Horn, Broadwater, Carbon, Gallatin, Lewis & Clark, Meagher and Teton counties in Montana. It also occurs in four counties in north-western Wyoming and two counties in south-central Idaho.

Kelseya is a monotypic genus, which means that this one species is so unique that it must be placed by itself in a separate group. Almost all species of plants in our state are in genera which are more widely distributed elsewhere, but *Kelseya* is found mainly in Montana....

The genus *Kelseya* was named in honor of Francis Duncan Kelsey, who first discovered the plant along the Missouri River northeast

of Helena in 1888. One of Montana's first resident botanists, Francis Kelsey was born in Indiana in 1849 and spent most of his early years in Ohio. He received a Bachelor's degree from Marietta College in Ohio and attended Andover Theological Seminary in Massachusetts, then served as a Congregationalist minister in Maine and Massachusetts before moving to Montana in 1885.

Kelsey served as a minister in Helena from 1885 to 1893. From 1887 to 1890, he was also a lecturer at the College of Montana in Deer Lodge. During this time, Kelsey studied the flora and collected nearly 500 fungi and over 650 vascular plant specimens. Twenty-three of the fungal specimens and eighteen of the the vascular plant specimens were nomenclatural types. He discovered at least five plant species that were new to science.

These include Kelsey's milkvetch (*Astragalus atropubescens*), small shooting star (*Dodecatheon conjugens*), *Kelseya* (*Kelseya uniflora*), white-margined phlox (*Phlox albomarginata*), and Kelsey's phlox (*Phlox kelseyi*).

Most of these plants he discovered within a few miles of Helena. The majority of his collections were made in Lewis and Clark,

- continued on Page Six



From the President

An early winter blanketed most of the state with snow and turned our attention to indoor appreciation of native plants. The chapters have many interesting evening programs and activities this season, the Source Guide revision is in the works, and the Board of Directors is actively meeting and discussing the present and future of MNPS.

FALL BOARD MEETING

The Board met in early November in Helena on a rare sunny day! Several members attended from the far corners of the state, as well as those closer at hand. We discussed the usual business: nominees for upcoming elections, budget for the coming year, annual meeting plans, and chapter activities. Our membership is up to 417, with some chapters gaining new members and a couple with decreasing numbers. To get the word out on our society, please distribute brochures whenever and wherever you can.

We welcomed Pat Plantenberg as secretary, and also Mary Sloan as the new Flathead chapter president. We thank past president Terry Divoky for all her great work and enthusiasm, especially for the last annual meeting. A big thank-you also to outgoing Valley of Flowers President Ken Sinay - thanks, Ken, for all the time and energy you've contributed.

SMALL GRANTS COMMITTEE FORMED

Angie Evenden now chairs a new five-member committee to stimulate research and appreciation of our native flora. It will choose recipients of a yearly grant. The committee is currently sending out proposal requests, and a *Call for Proposals* is included in this issue. Deadline for applications is FEBRUARY 15, 1997 [previously announced as January 15]. We look forward to hearing about the projects that are funded by this program in future newsletters. Thanks to the committee for their involvement!

GUIDELINES FOR ALLOCATING FUNDS

A small ad hoc committee was formed at our Board meeting to help create some guidelines and strategy for allocating money from our general fund. Because the Board has had several requests for funding worthy projects (beyond the Small Grants program), a way to prioritize the requests has become necessary. These guidelines will also inspire us to plan for future goals, and the next ten years should see us involved in many new projects benefitting native plants.

CONSERVATION HAPPENINGS

Our Conservation chair, Peter Lesica, has been quite active in voicing our concern for native plants.

especially native prairie plants. He co-authored the research article, "Long term harmful effects of Crested Wheatgrass on Great Plains grassland ecosystems," that appeared in the September-October '96 Journal of Soil and Water Conservation. It was adapted from an earlier article in the Spring '95 KELSEYA.

Peter and the committee are now working with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to put more emphasis on preserving native grassland and restoring disturbed lands back to native species rather than introduced species. Since statistics on how much native prairie we have in the state are sorely lacking, Peter is suggesting that an inventory is necessary and crucial to good land management.

The committee is working on a future symposium/training session on prairie conservation in the Great Plains with NRCS. In addition, Peter has been busy addressing other conservation concerns such as Endangered Species Act reclassification. We appreciate all of his hard work on behalf of native plants. If you're interested in plant conservation issues, please contact Peter.

TEACHING NATIVE PLANTS

Last year we funded Flathead Chapter member Terry Divoky in her efforts to put together a "trunk" of education materials about native plants for the elementary school level. This assemblage includes a narrated slide show, books, art projects, poems, and activities. The students learn about four main plant families and create their own field guide. Terry has also developed a slide show to help educate teachers who use the trunk.

We encourage chapters to create similar learning trunks for plants in their regions. I believe these would be especially helpful in small rural schools. There has been mention of a statewide travelling trunk as well. If you would like more information on the trunk idea, please call Terry at 406-387-5527. Terry hopes to display her project at the Annual Meeting this summer.

And last but not least, PLEASE RENEW your MNPS membership for another year of KELSEYA, information on meetings and field trips in your area, and a continued commitment to native plant appreciation and conservation! Also any additional donation is appreciated and will be put to good use. You may donate to the general fund, or for a specific program or activity. There's no end to what we could do!!

- Linda Iverson

<<CONSERVATION BULLETS>>>

SPALDING'S CATCHFLY PROPOSED FOR 'THREATENED' LISTING...STILL

In February, 1995, the Flathead Chapter of MNPS filed a petition to have Spalding's catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act. Under the law, the US Fish & Wildlife Service has 90 days after receiving the petition to issue a preliminary finding on the merit of the petition.

A draft finding was prepared by the USFWS Boise office in the fall of 1995 and sent to the USFWS regional office in Portland. No action has been taken for the past year due to a one-year moratorium on the listing process imposed by the Clinton administration and a lack of sufficient funds. A spokesman at the USFWS Portland office recently stated that a preliminary finding would likely be issued in spring or summer of 1997.

Funding for surveys and research on listed or candidate threatened or endangered plants in Montana has decreased over the past five years. USFWS allocated \$15,000 in 1992 and again in 1993, \$13,500 in 1994, and \$5,000 in each of 1995 and 1996. Funding is

predicted to remain at this low level again in 1997. Last year all of the USFWS money was spent on recovery research for water howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*).

PLANT CONSERVATION WEB SITE

The Native Plant Conservation Initiative web site is now up and running. Please visit them at: <http://www.aqd.nps.gov/natnet/npci>.

The site is still under construction and revision, so look for more changes and additions in the future. Arlene Ripley, a volunteer for the National Park Service, designed and maintains the site. The home page includes as many links to plant conservation related web pages and e-mail addresses as they know about, and they urge you - if you have one that is not currently included - to let them know about it.

ELEVEN NEW NATURAL & BOTANICAL AREAS DEDICATED

**NEWLY DESIGNATED RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS
and SPECIAL INTEREST BOTANICAL AREAS
on the BEAVERHEAD/DEERLODGE AND
BITTERROOT NATIONAL FORESTS**

DISTRICT

RNA/SIA Name	Acres	Features
BUTTE		
Basin Creek	1014	subalpine forest, riparian and herbaceous type
DARBY/PHILIPSBURG		
Sapphire Divide	1399	subalpine larch, whitebark pine, pond
DILLON		
Horse Prairie	196	sagebrush and willow communities
JEFFERSON		
Bernice	451	douglas-fir and subalpine forest & grasslands
Dry Mountain	507	douglas-fir, sagebrush, bunchgrass
Lost Park	618	subalpine forest, willow, herbaceous wetlands
Thunderbolt Mtn	792	subalpine forest, whitebark pine, wetlands
PHILIPSBURG		
Dexter Basin	1109	whitebark pine, subalpine larch, subalpine rocklands
West Fork Bulle (SIA)	486	bunchgrass grassland
Windy Ridge	235	rough rescue grassland
WISE RIVER		
Skull-O'De11	2543	subalpine forest, wet meadows, lake, peatland

In November 1996, the US Forest Service Northern Region announced the establishment of ten new Research Natural Areas (RNAs) and one Special Interest Botanical Area (SIA). Ten of these lie on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, and one (Sapphire Divide) straddles the Sapphire Mountain Range, lying partly in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge's Philipsburg Ranger District and partly in the Darby Ranger District, Bitterroot National Forest. Special features such as geologic structures, wet fens, ponds, and sensitive plants make up some of the attractions found in these additions.

These areas (see sidebar), encompassing 9,350 acres, were established following a public environmental assessment process. Most were proposed as natural areas in their respective Forest Plan documents. With the new additions, the Northern Region now has 78 RNAs established and 43 more identified for review.

Research Natural Areas are permanently protected to provide reference areas for scientific research and ecological monitoring and to conserve biological diversity. The *Special Interest Botanical Area* designation is utilized to recognize and protect areas with significant - and often unique - botanical values. Collectively, these natural areas provide valuable sites which help land managers and scientists better understand how ecosystems work. Research Natural Areas are systematically selected to represent the variety of ecosystems that occur on National Forests.

Research Natural Areas contain lands dedicated to ecological research, monitoring, education and conservation of biological diversity throughout National Forest Service lands. Selection and proposal of these lands follows a rigorous procedure that examines each site and notes its special characteristics. Generally these lands represent pristine sites with little or no past disturbance from logging, grazing, mining, road building, intensive recreation or any other disturbance. As such they serve as valuable benchmarks of natural conditions and processes. As reference areas, RNAs help managers by providing sites to compare the effects of their treatments on lands outside the RNAs. Thus RNAs become a standard to monitor effects and impacts against while applying treatments on similar, managed sites.

Motorized use in RNAs is not allowed so that areas can retain their special qualities and so that introduction of unwanted pests such as noxious weeds is prevented. Access to several of the newly designated sites requires hiking ranging from as little as a quarter mile to over four miles. The others have road access to their boundaries. The primary management objective for RNAs is to maintain natural conditions and processes. Activities that would disrupt natural conditions are not permitted. For example, logging, firewood cutting, livestock grazing and mining are not permitted within RNAs.

The newly added RNAs join other areas established throughout the nation that help form a system that encompasses a large part of the ecological diversity found in national forests nationwide. From grasslands to dry Douglas-fir forests to wet spruce/subalpine fir forests to high elevation whitebark pine, subalpine larch and alpine tundra, the added sites capture a small bit of the diversity found on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge and Bitterroot National Forests.

For further information on these new natural areas or on the Forest Service Natural Areas Program, please contact: John Joy, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, 3 Whitetail Rd, P O Box F, Whitehall MT 59759, (406)287-3223; or Angela Evenden, Natural Areas Program, Intermountain Research Station, P O Box 8089, Missoula MT 59807, (406) 542-4173.

ANNOUNCEMENTS...

RARE PLANTS IN THE APRIL SPOTLIGHT

The time is fast approaching for the **2nd Montana Rare Plant Conference!** This biennial event is scheduled to take place in the first half of April, 1997, in Missoula, Montana. Specific dates, speakers, and location will be announced in a flyer to be sent out by March, 1997.

Don't miss this chance to get together with native plant enthusiasts and botanists from around Montana to learn about new occurrences in the state and find out about exciting new research on plant conservation biology, ecology, taxonomy, and restoration biology!

WYOMING RARE PLANT WORKSHOP

The fourth Wyoming Interagency Rare Plant Information Workshop is scheduled for March 4-5, 1997, at the Holiday Inn in Riverton. The workshop is sponsored by the Wyoming Rare Plant Technical Committee (composed of representatives of the US Forest

Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Natural Diversity Database) and is open to anyone interested in the state's rare flora.

The workshop will consist of three main sections. The March 4 morning session will feature a number of speakers discussing the national "Celebrating Wildflowers" effort, agency weed policies, rare plant survey techniques, and writing Biological Evaluations and Environmental Assessments. The afternoon session will feature a discussion of the ramifications of recent changes in the USFWS policy on candidate species being considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act. The morning session on March 5 will be a review of the status of plant species currently considered a high priority by the federal agencies (particularly BLM and Forest Service). In this session people are asked to share their recent field discoveries and discuss management concerns.

For additional information on the conference, contact Walt Fertig at (307) 745-5026.

CALENDAR

MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, FLATHEAD CHAPTER: 5:30 pm general meeting (everyone's welcome); 7 pm program. Flathead Valley Community College Learning Resource Center. Sandy Tardiff of the Flathead Lake Biological Station will talk about grizzly bears digging for glacier lilies in Glacier Park. Call Jenny Tollefson (857-2024) for more information.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, CLARK FORK CHAPTER HERBARIUM NIGHT: 7:30 pm, Rm 303, Botany Bldg, UM campus in Missoula. "Tribes of the Asteraceae" - join Peter Lesica as he plumbs the depths of arcane botanical knowledge and learn to love those yucky yellow composites. Bring a hand lens if you have one.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, VALLEY OF FLOWERS CHAPTER: 7 pm, community meeting room, Emerson Cultural Center, 111 S Grand, Bozeman. Wayne Phillips, ecologist with the Lewis and Clark National Forest, will bring us up to date on the native-grass planting project (see Bonnie Dearing's article, Page Five) near Great Falls: "Cultivation of Native Grasses for *In Situ* Revegetation."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, CLARK FORK CHAPTER: 7:30 pm. Don and Dorothy Fawcett will share their home and knowledge with us this evening. The topic is "Photographing Wildflowers: Equipment and Techniques." The Fawcetts live at 1224 Lincoln Rd in Missoula. For more info, call 721-7627.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, FLATHEAD CHAPTER: 5:30 pm, Flathead Valley Community College Learning Resource Center, Kalispell. General meeting 5:30 pm (everyone's welcome); 7 pm program. Myra Black and Jane Kollmeyer of the Flathead National Forest will present a slide program on the invasive weed Tansy Ragwort. Call Jenny at 857-2024.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, CLARK FORK CHAPTER HERBARIUM NIGHT: 7:30 pm, Rm 303, Botany Bldg, UM campus in Missoula. Dr Charles Miller, authority on the evolution of pines, will guide us through "Pines of Past and Present." Join us for an evening of fossil fondling.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, KELSEY CHAPTER: 7 pm, Lewis & Clark Library, Last Chance Gulch, Helena. Two presentations: "Blister Rust on Two-Needle Pines" with Steve Cooper of the Natural Heritage Program, and "Native Plant Pathologies" with Jack Riesselman, plant pathologist from MSU-Bozeman.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, VALLEY OF FLOWERS CHAPTER: 7 pm, community meeting room, Emerson Cultural Center, 111 S Grand, Bozeman. Seventy million years ago, the flora of south central Montana was temperate to sub-tropical lowland forest. Today's Pryor Mountains and adjacent desert host a very different flora, including some of the most arid-adapted plants found in the state. Join Judy McCarthy for "The Pryor Mountain Flora: It's Not What It Use to Be."

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, MNPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 10 am-4 pm, meeting room of the Lewis and Clark Public Library, Last Chance Gulch, Helena. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring a sack lunch. If you have ideas, issues or concerns you would like the Board to address, please contact your chapter or at-large rep, listed on the back page.

CALENDAR COORDINATOR

Tulli Kerstetter, MNPS vice president, is now serving as coordinator for all meeting and field trip notices, field trip reports, and chapter activity writeups. Please send them typed or on disk (see back page for specs) no later than **March 15** for inclusion in the Spring issue of the newsletter, to: KELSEYA, Attn: Tulli Kerstetter, P O Box 6444, Bozeman MT 59771-6444.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, CLARK FORK CHAPTER: 7:30 pm, Rm 307, Botany Bldg, UM campus, Missoula. Angela Evenden, who works with the Research Natural Areas Program in the Forest Resources Lab in Missoula, will give a presentation and slide show.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, FLATHEAD CHAPTER: Flathead Valley Community College Learning Resource Center, Kalispell. General meeting (everyone's welcome) 5:30 pm; program at 7 pm. Dee Strickler will talk about alpine wildflowers of Switzerland. More info? Call Jenny at 857-2024.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25, CLARK FORK CHAPTER HERBARIUM NIGHT: 7:30 pm, Rm 303, Botany Bldg, UM campus in Missoula. "Montana's Magnificent Moonworts and More." Diane Pavek and Roberta Walsh will introduce us to these rare, diminutive ferns that few people ever see.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, CLARK FORK CHAPTER: 7:30 pm. NOTE: *LOCATION TBA*. Helen Athowe from Missoula County Extension Service, and Sheila Morrison, MNPS member and native plant propagationist, will give a special presentation on "Native Plant Propagation." For more info, call 721-7627.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, CLARK FORK CHAPTER HERBARIUM NIGHT: 7:30 pm, Rm 303, Botany Bldg, UM campus, Missoula. Seeds are a critical but often overlooked stage in plant life history. Join Peter Stickney, one of our seedier members, when he presents "Seeds: It's a Beginning." Bring a hand lens if you have one.

THURSDAY, MAY 8, CLARK FORK CHAPTER: 7:30 pm, Rm 307, Botany Bldg, UM campus, Missoula. Sandy Tardiff from the UM Division of Biological Sciences will present a slide show, "Effects of Grizzly Bears on Subalpine Meadow Ecology."



FIELD TRIPS

PLAN YOUR SUMMER SAFARI

Having trouble deciding where to go on your annual safari? Tired of the same old watering holes? Why not schedule a visit to "THE EASTERN COLONIES"?

IT'S NOT TOO SOON...

...to be thinking about spring and summer field trips! Whether it's a "rerun" of a popular trip from years past, or exploring new and unfamiliar territory - or organizing a special project, such as weed control, revegetation/restoration, or plant 'rescue' on sites scheduled for development - now is the time to start planning. The Spring issue of KELSEYA will be out in early April (deadline **March 15**), and there will be a separate Field Trip mailing in early May (deadline **April 30**).

You don't have to be a plant identification expert in order to schedule a trip, just be willing to handle the not-too-difficult logistics of setting up a date/time and rendezvous point, and doing local publicity such as posters and newspaper notices.

When you write up the notice of your trip for KELSEYA, please remember that it will be read by those outside your immediate area, who may not be familiar with either the destination or rendezvous location. And it helps to provide a little additional information - especially if there is a particular plant species, habitat, or location that is the focus of the trip. Get dreamin'!

FOCUS ON GRASSLANDS

Montana Audubon's Annual Meeting is Friday-Sunday, April 25-27, in Billings. Focus of this year's meeting is on grasslands. Most sessions will held at the Billings Public Library, and field trips will visit nearby grasslands/birding areas. For registration or other information, call Montana Audubon at 406-443-3949.

UNITED PLANT SAVERS

The even increasing popularity of botanical medicine and the corresponding demand for herbal products, along with habitat destruction and destructive logging practices, have put many of our once-abundant medicinal plants at risk of extinction. A group of concerned herbalists who care about the earth and medicinal plants recently formed United Plant Savers. UPS is dedicated to preserving native medicinal plants and is a non-profit educational corporation.

Only in its second year, United Plant Savers has already made several significant contributions towards ensuring the survival of *at risk* medicinal plant species. The organization has participated in a number of community replanting projects, and in several educational programs throughout the country. UPS is currently working on establishing a list of *at risk* medicinal plants and a guide to nurseries and farms that supply nursery-grown medicinal plant stock. Long term goals include providing land consultation services to help farms/growers cultivate these plants and establishing plant sanctuaries for medicinal plants.

UPS will hold its first conference in April 1997 in Santa Cruz, California. United Plant Savers can be found on the Web at <http://members.aol.com/upsavers>. Write UPS at P O Box 420, East Barre, VT 05649; (802) 479-9825; or e-mail at: ups@ihawaii.net.

GLACIER INSTITUTE SCHEDULES SPRING CLASSES

Glacier Institute offers outdoors enthusiasts a running start on spring with a variety of classes. Of particular interest to plant fans are:

"Spring Comes to the Flathead" - April 19. Bring your family to Lone Pine State Park (southwest of Kalispell) to spend the day outdoors learning about the environment.

"Where the Mountains Rise from the Plains: Spring on the Rocky Mountain Front" - May 2-3-4. Come explore the scenic landscapes on the eastern edge of the Park with an expert naturalist.

For details of signup for these courses, or to obtain a full catalog of class offerings in 1997, call 406-755-1211, or write Glacier Institute, P O Box 7457, Kalispell MT 59904...or stop by to visit their new winter-office location at 137 Main St, Kalispell (above Rocky Mountain Outfitters).

PLANT CHECKLIST FOR PINE BUTTE

The US Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy have published a checklist of the vascular plants occurring in TNC's Pine Butte Swamp Preserve and the surrounding area. The checklist was prepared by Peter Lesica and David Hanna, and includes annotations to the habitat and abundance of each of the nearly 700 species.

Copies may be obtained free of charge from Lewis & Clark National Forest, Attn: Leah MacDonald, P O Box 869, Great Falls MT 59403.

DISEASE RESISTANT ELMS

The Fall 1996 issue of *Small Scale Agriculture Today* carries the good news that there are two new American elm cultivars that have high levels of tolerance to the fungus responsible for Dutch Elm disease.

Over a hundred rooted cuttings of 'Valley Forge' and 'New Harmony' have been distributed over the past two years to tree nurseries, experiment stations and arboreta. Wholesale nurseries will propagate the trees for sale by late 1997 or early 1998; retail nurseries should have them by 1999.

COMPUTERIZED PLANT KEYS

A recent issue of the *Bulletin of the Native Plant Society of Oregon* notes that computer plant keys have now been completed for all of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and are available for use.

Subsets are available for various areas of those states, such as the north coast, southwest Oregon, or northeast Washington. For more information, a price list, or to place an order, contact Bruce Barnes, Flora ID Northwest, at 541-278-2222 (office), 541-276-5547 (home), or: dbarnes@rednet.org.

Sounds like a great idea, Bruce - when is a Montana version of the key going to be available?

WHAT'S YOUR W P I Q ?

Afficionados of that arcane branch of botany that gleans the subtle clues offered by plants in dormant winter condition sometimes refer to themselves as the "Dead Twig Society." They challenge YOU to test your **WINTER PLANT IDENTIFICATION QUOTIENT** on the plants represented below. Answers are on Page Six.

Illustrations from Morris, Schmautz and Stickney (1962), *Winter Field Key to the Native Shrubs of Montana*, Montana Forest & Conservation Experiment Station, MSU, and Intermountain Forest & Range Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service

NATIVE GRASS SEED FROM ON-SITE SOURCES

- Bonnie Dearing, Public Affairs Officer
Lewis & Clark National Forest

Spending a lazy afternoon just watching the grass grow on the Lewis and Clark National Forest is a great way to pass a summer day. And now, the grasses to be seen are the product of a native grass seed project headed by Forest ecologist Wayne Phillips.

In August of 1994, Wayne and volunteer/seasonal helpers harvested four pounds of seeds of five native species for a watershed rehabilitation project at North Fork Deadman Creek, where siltation was threatening a cutthroat trout spawning stream.

After dividing the collected seed for germination and genetic tests, some of the seed was broadcast over two test sites. At both test sites, all grass species successfully germinated and were effective in controlling soil erosion the first year. As an added bonus, mountain brome produced abundant seed at both sites, a welcome surprise the first year after planting.

Following this initial success, seed collection accelerated in 1995. In approving the funding for the program, Forest Supervisor Gloria Flora said, "We can't compare the cost of commercial seed with native seed

from our own local sources. They're not the same product."

In August 1995, three workshops were held for trainee seed collectors. All seed collection in 1994 had been done by cutting off the seed heads. But in 1995, hand seed stripping proved to be more effective, faster and safer, and required less seed cleaning. Sixteen pounds of seed were collected by hand stripping from six species of grasses collected from six sites.

After cleaning at the Forest Services's Bend (Oregon) Tree Nursery, the 1995 seeds were planted at the Forest Service's J H Stone Nursery in Central Point, Oregon. From the original sixteen pounds, the nursery harvested a whopping 973 pounds of native grass seeds (see Table). These seed production beds at the Stone Nursery could meet the Lewis & Clark NF's grass seed needs for the next five years, at a cost of less than \$9 a pound.

"This demonstrates," Phillips commented, "that revegetation from on-site native seed collection is not only the ecologically responsible thing to do, it is also practical."

TABLE 1. First Year Native Grass Seed Yield, Lewis and Clark National Forest

SPECIES	COMMON NAME	POUNDS OF CLEAN SEED	
		Collected in 1995	Produced in 1996
<i>Agropyron caninum</i> var. <i>latiglume</i>	Slender wheatgrass	.21	.16
<i>Bromus anomalus</i>	Nodding brome	3.24	89.86
<i>Bromus carinatus</i>	Mountain brome	11.38	857.51
<i>Bromus ciliatus</i>	Fringed brome	.60	10.85
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted hairgrass	.27	0*
<i>Stipa occidentalis</i>	Western needlegrass	.65	14.58
TOTALS		16.35	972.96

* Successfully established and expected to produce seed in 1997

KELSEY and KELSEYA,
continued from Page One:

Jefferson, and Powell counties, but he also collected in Cascade, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Granite, Madison, Park, Sweet Grass and Yellowstone counties.

Kelsey's collecting and teaching of the local flora did much to arouse interest in botany throughout the state. He directed the assembly of a collection of Montana plant specimens for display at the 1893 World's Fair. This collection is now housed at the herbarium at Montana State University in Bozeman. The remainder of his collection (eventually totalling over 6,000 specimens) is located at the herbarium of Miami University in Ohio.

Francis Kelsey left Montana in 1893 to accept the first professorship of Botany at Oberlin College in Ohio. During this time, he organized his herbarium and published a dozen professional papers, many of them dealing with his Montana experiences. In 1897 he accepted a pastorate in Toledo, Ohio, and was a lecturer in botany at the Smead School for Girls until his death in 1905.

- Peter Lesica

[Note: the *Kelseyia uniflora* drawing that accompanies this article is available in note card form, along with five other plants. Available in sets or individually, from chapters or Linda Iverson, HC 88, Box 3733, Big Timber MT 59011.

NEW BOOK>>>

GLACIER ON MY MIND

Photography by Michael S Sample

Falcon Press, P O Box 1718, Helena MT 59624

\$29.95 hardcover (\$43.95 Can)

Take an unforgettable journey through Montana's Glacier National Park with this magnificent portrait of the Crown of the Continent. Glacier's shimmering aspens, glistening snow-covered peaks, and sparkling clear streams are all captured here in full color by one of Montana's leading outdoor and nature photographers. Mike Sample's outstanding photos - impressive displays of alpine wildflowers, glimpses of Glacier's abundant wildlife, and soaring granite peaks carved by ancient geologic forces - are complemented by the inspirational words and wisdom of Charles M Russell, Native Americans, nature writers, and others. Available May 1997.

WHAT'S YOUR W P I Q ??

1. Buffalobery (*Shepherdia argentea*); 2. Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*);
3. Common snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*); 4. Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*);
- 5a. Columbia haw (*Crataegus columbiana*); 5b. Black hawthorn (*C. douglasii*);
6. Thin-leaf alder (*Alnus tenuifolia*); 7. Boxelder (*Acer negundo*);
8. Devil's club (*Ophiopanax horridum*)

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY * Membership Application/Renewal**

Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE () _____

STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP WITH CHAPTER AFFILIATION*

- ___ \$12 I. Individual
- ___ 16 II. Family
- ___ 28 III. Business/Organization
- ___ 4 IV. Yearly chapter dues for Lifetime Members

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Statewide membership only)

- ___ \$ 8 I. Individual
- ___ 12 II. Family
- ___ 25 III. Business/Organization
- ___ 150 IV. Lifetime member (one-time payment)

PLEASE NOTE: For Canadian subscribers, add \$3.00 to each category to cover additional mailing costs

Additional Donation \$ _____ (donations may be specified toward a particular project or the general operating fund)

***ARRAS COVERED BY CHAPTERS:**

- ARTEMISIA CHAPTER** - Yellowstone and Carbon Counties; southeastern/south-central Montana
- CLARK FORK CHAPTER** - Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Powell and Ravalli Counties
- FLATHEAD CHAPTER** - Flathead and Lake Counties plus Glacier National Park
- KELSEY CHAPTER** - Broadwater, Lewis & Clark and Jefferson Counties
- MAKA FLORA CHAPTER** - Richland, Roosevelt, McCone, Sheridan and Daniels Counties
- VALLEY OF FLOWERS CHAPTER** - Gallatin, Park, Madison and Sweet Grass Counties plus Yellowstone National Park

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

Membership in the 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 included in the Winter issue of KELSEYA. Anyone who has not renewed by the time the Summer KELSEYA is ready to mail will be dropped from the mailing list/MNPS membership roster.

Your mailing label tells your

CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP (I, II, III, IV - see above)

CHAPTER AFFILIATION, if any (ART = Artemisia; CF = Clark Fork; F = Flathead; K = Kelsey; MF = Maka Flora; VoF = Valley of Flowers)

DATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: If your label reads "2/97" your membership expires February 28, 1997...use the above coupon to renew your membership any time. Please drop us a note if any information on your label is incorrect.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

MAIL TO: Montana Native Plant Society/Membership
P O Box 8783
Missoula MT 59807-8783

PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:

MONTANA	BOZEMAN, cont:	GREAT FALLS	HELENA, cont:	MISSOULA, cont:	WEST GLACIER
AUGUSTA	Precision Instruments NW	Kristi Dubois	Scott & July Soltis	Bill & Lee Ballard	Kate Kendall
Sarah Howe-Cobb	CHOTEAU	HAMILTON	Shelley Spalding	Lori Parr Campbell	Mike Kustudia
BIGFORK	David Hanna	Christine Coffin	JEFFERSON CITY	Tangi Meyer	David Schirokauer
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Kathy Ross	Barbara Gwin	Dawn Barnes	KALISPELL	Mary Morrison	Gary Mahlum
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MSU Herbarium	Joe Scornaienchi	Lois J Olsen	Lyn Baldwin & M Jones		

MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

The Montana Native Plant Society is a 501-C-3 (not-for-profit) corporation chartered for the purpose of learning more about plants native to our state and their habitats, and of sharing that knowledge. Contributions to MNPS are tax deductible, and may be designated for a specific project or chapter, for the Small Grants fund, or may be made to the general operating fund.

Your yearly membership fee includes a subscription to *KELSEYA*, the newsletter of MNPS, published quarterly. We welcome your articles, clippings, field trip reports, meeting notices, book reviews - almost anything, in fact, that relates to our native plants or the Society. Please include a line or two of "bio" information with each article. Drawings should be in black ink or good-quality photocopy. If you send clippings, please note the source, volume/issue and date.

All meeting and field trip notices, field trip reports or announcements should be mailed to *KELSEYA*, Attn: Calendar, P O Box 6444, Bozeman MT 59771; longer articles should be sent to Terry Wamsley, P O Box 1304, Harlem MT 59526. All items should be typed or on disk - prefer 3.5" - in WordPerfect 5.0 or better, or in a generic ASCII file.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS and inquiries about membership in the Montana Native Plant Society should be sent to MNPS, Attn: Membership, P O Box 8783, Missoula MT 59807-8783. General correspondence should also be directed to the Missoula address.

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 plants or the interests of MNPS members.

Deadline for the SPRING issue is MARCH 15; please include meeting/field trip notices through mid-August, 1997. The Spring issue of *KELSEYA* will be mailed in early April.

**IF YOU MOVE, PLEASE NOTIFY US AT:
MNPS MEMBERSHIP, P O BOX 8783
MISSOULA MT 59807**

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KELSEYA Editor
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