

Kelseya

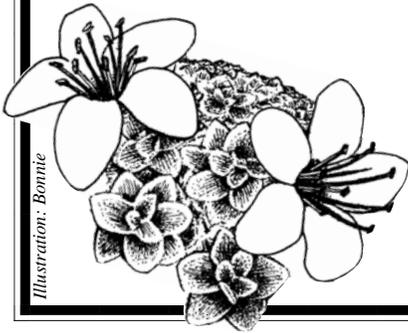


Illustration: Bonnie

Kelseya

Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society

www.umt.edu/mnps/

MNPS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS!

To celebrate 20 years of MNPS and this publication, we are reprinting the following two articles from early issues of the Kelseya. You will find early newsletter mastheads sprinkled throughout this publication.

Kelseya uniflora (Watson) Rydberg is an intricately branched, mat forming, partially evergreen shrub in the Rose family (Rosaceae). It has small reddish-purple flowers that are produced very early in the spring. Kelseya is most often found growing from cracks in limestone cliffs where it forms mats that 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 Bear-tooth Mountains on the southern border of Montana. It is currently known from Beaverhead, Big Horn, Broadwater, Carbon, Gallatin, Lewis and Clark, Meagher, and Teton Counties in Montana. It also occurs in four counties in northwestern 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 dis-

tributed 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. He was one of Montana's first resident botanists.

Kathy Ahlenslager Vol. 1 No. 2 Winter 1988



Do you know Montana's native plants?
A. It was once one of the most abundant grasses on Montana's prairie. But now the only pure stand grows in the southeastern corner of the state.
B. The roots of this delicate pink flower were used to feed by western Montana's Indians. Nowadays, look but don't pick!
Answers: Page 4

Newsletter of the Montana Native Plant Society

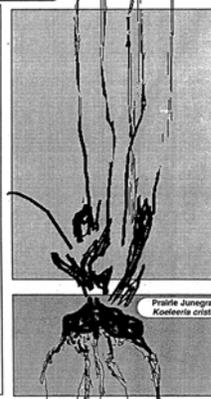
Native Plant Society founded in Montana

BY KATHY AHLENSLAGER
Montana Native Plant Society President
When Peter Lesica, Virginia Vincent and I first discussed forming a Montana Native Plant Society last fall, we had no idea of the tremendous response we'd receive from throughout the state. Thank you all for your encouragement and enthusiasm.

Presently our mailing list includes more than 250 names of interested persons. To stay on the list, please fill out the enclosed membership application and send it back with your dues.

Members of the Society comprise a diverse group of amateurs and professionals who share a common interest in Montana's unique flora. The society offers members an opportunity to share and acquire knowledge of wildflowers, cultivation of native plants and the conservation of threatened and endangered species. Through education and appreciation we hope to preserve Montana's botanical heritage.

We will meet several times a year throughout the state. If you are interested in helping organize a group in your area, please contact me. People already expanding activities, but welcoming help, include Shelly Bruce (Bozeman), Steve Shelly (Helena) and myself (Missoula). Our meetings and field trips are open to the public. If you would like to present a program or lead a field trip, have ideas for future programs or trips, or have suggestions how we can improve the Montana Native Plant Society, or contribute for this quarterly newsletter, please let us know. Please have your newsletter items to Virginia Vincent, editor, by Jan. 8. The Botany Department of the University of Montana graciously covered our initial expenses. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank the faculty for their support.



Prairie Junegrass
Koeleria cristata

Fall 1987 Montana Native Plant Society Newsletter Volume 1, Number 1 Page 1

Our first newsletter, Fall 1987.

Francis Duncan 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 minis-

ter 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 that time, Kelsey studied the flora and collected nearly 500 fungi and 650 vascular plant specimens. Twenty-three of the fungal specimens and 18 of 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, 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 totaling over 6,000 specimens) is at the herbarium of Miami University in Ohio.

(Continued on page 9)



President's Platform

Susan Winslow



Happy New Year and Happy Anniversary MNPS! May we all continue to support conservation toward healthy and sustainable environments.

The Montana Native Plant Society was organized and incorporated in the fall of 1987. Over the past 20 years, the Society has blossomed and borne the fruits of dedication and hard work. In looking back at old newsletters, the underlying message is one of determination. The seeds of diligence were sown and over time sprouted into the spirited organization we see today: self-governed, fully functional, and highly motivated. The core group faced significant challenges that many of us currently take for granted, such as a set of functional bylaws, a viable bank account and annual operating budget, productive committees and special projects, active chapters and field trips, and record-setting attendance at the annual meeting. We owe that pioneering bunch of enthusiastic individuals a huge debt of gratitude, which can be expressed with continued personal support and involvement at the Society's local and state levels. In that regard, the Board of Directors addressed at the fall meeting several areas of major interest to the membership.

There is always a need to raise money and we're still looking for someone to spearhead fund-raising

activities as detailed in the *Kelsey* winter 2006 issue.

Membership: Membership was reported at 611, up from 537 in 2005. Multiple-member families actually bump the total up to over 800. My how that 1987 register of 250 has grown! Note that it's time to pay dues, so when you get the renewal notice in the mail, please send in your payment. Thanks!

Newsletter: Should we go electronic and e-distribute the newsletter? Some states do so to reduce mailing expenses. There are many issues associated with making a transition of that magnitude. If you have thoughts, I'm sure the editors would like to hear them.

Webmaster: The webmaster position is still in somewhat of a state of limbo. The board approved a small annual stipend for maintaining the website, so if anyone with html-programming skills is interested, please contact myself or Marilyn Marler. Thanks again to Marilyn for continuing to update our site.

Small Grant Committee: Included in this issue is a call for the 2007 Small Grant Program. Since 1996, Small Grants have played an integral role in stimulating research, appreciation, and conservation of Montana's native flora. Read more about this opportunity on page 4.

Landscape/Revegetation Committee:

There is a move afoot to change leadership of this committee. An electronic update of the *Source Guide for Native Plants of Montana* will proceed as time allows.

Elections: A small committee was set up to secure nominations for the spring election of President, Treasurer, and Western Director At-large. See page 3.

Awards: An important aspect of the summer meeting is the presentation of a special award to a deserving member, and once again, nominations are being accepted. If you have someone in mind, details can be found on page 3.

The Board of Directors meetings are open to the general membership. The next meeting is scheduled in Helena on March 3. There is a concern about a lack of chapter participation at the board meetings. Most recently, response to the request for agenda items/activity reports was minimal, and overall attendance was pretty low. On behalf of the entire board, I'm asking that each chapter discuss the need for consistent representation at these meetings held only three times a year. Remember the abovementioned gambit about being self-governed? Actions by a few do not constitute agreement by many. Thanks for your attention and have a Merry Winter!

Susan can be reached at P.O. Box 502, Bridger, MT 59014 406-668-9112 e-mail: susan213@msn.com

WELCOME new members!

The Montana Native Plant Society extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Clark Fork Chapter: Mary Lawrence;
Flathead Chapter: Annie Lavoie, Frances Towl;
Kelsey Chapter: Richard Davis;
Maka Flora: Laura Senior.

Your participation and support are important to us! Please contact your chapter representative with any ideas or suggestions you may have.

MNPS Dues Increase

Effective January 2007 there will be a slight increase in MNPS dues. An individual with chapter affiliation will be \$20 and without affiliation will be \$15. Other categories were raised proportionately. The board was reluctant to raise the cost of membership, but noted that costs have increased and dues have been unchanged for a number of years.

2007 Annual Meeting Scheduled

Mark your calendars now! The 2007 MNPS annual meeting is June 29-July 1, 2007, at Georgetown Lake. The Kelsey Chapter is busy with plans to make this event one not to be missed. We have a camp rented right on the lake and the event promises to be loads of fun. There are lots of great hiking opportunities and several Forest Service Research Natural Areas are close by. Wildflowers should be abundant! Plan ahead and we'll see you then.

KELSEYA

Montana Native Plant Society Sprouts Winter 1988

Wildflowers Photo and Art Contest a Huge Success!!

The Flathead Chapter hosted its first Photo and Art Contest this last summer. The contest was promoted as part of the national Celebrating Wildflowers program and celebrated the beauty and diversity of native plants in Montana. It encouraged kids and adults of all skill levels to participate with the goal of enhancing the knowledge and appreciation of native plants through art. All 117 entries were displayed at the Kalispell Center Mall from August 27 through September 10, overlapping with the Dahlia Show over Labor Day weekend. We had entries from youngsters and adult professionals, from kindergarten classrooms and art studio workshops, and from summer hikers just capturing the floristic beauty that surrounded them. Associated pollinators were even captured in some of them! A few incredible photos of noxious weeds were also submitted but were disqualified. However, these were included in the display for educational purposes. A panel of judges had a fun but difficult time voting on winners from the many amazing entries. We did manage to determine the top entries, and prizes/ribbons were awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for six divisions in both the photo and art categories at an awards ceremony at the Kalispell Center Mall. All prizes were donated by local merchants/artists. Winners and selected entries (weed photos) were displayed at the Kalispell County Library during October and November. We hope to continue the success of our first year by doing it again this summer. Look for 2007 contest and entry information in the spring issue of the *Kelsey*, or call Linh Hoang at 758-5331 for details.

Linh Hoang

Award Nominations Due by April 1st

The Montana Native Plant Society presents two awards. The **Outstanding Service Award** is given no more than once a year to a member of MNPS for service to the Society. The award consists of a certificate accompanied by an individualized gift. The **Special Achievement Award** may be awarded to anyone, member or not, whose work has contributed to the mission and goals of MNPS. The award consists of a certificate and possibly a small gift. The awards will be presented at the annual meeting of the Society. Any member may make a nomination and now is the time. The awards committee must receive nominations no later than April 1. Send your nominations to Drake Barton at 314 Travis Creek Road, Clancy, MT 59634 (montana-moods@hughes.net) or call Patrick Plantenberg at 431-4615. All nominations should include a written statement about the nominee's contribution to MNPS and relate why the nominee should receive an award. There are many people dedicated to native plants in Montana who deserve recognition.

Call for MNPS Board of Directors Nominations

The following positions are up for election: President, Treasurer, and Western Director At-large. If you would like to nominate someone for any of these positions, please contact Susan Winslow at: susan213@msn.com or Betty Kuropat at: kuropat@bigsky.net or 406-892-0129. The deadline for nominations is February 15 and the ballot will be included in the spring *Kelsey*.

20 Years of Native Plant Conservation

MNPS is in a nearly unique position to do conservation work. True or not, environmental organizations have been accused of stirring up controversy in order to feather their own nests with contributions. MNPS is a completely volunteer organization, and partly because of this, is considered an unbiased source of information and ideas on conservation issues by natural resource agencies. Over the past 20 years MNPS (Flathead Chapter) successfully petitioned for the listing of two threatened plants under the Federal Endangered Species Act, water howellia and Spalding's catchfly. We developed plant collecting guidelines and distributed them to many schools throughout the state. We worked with the Montana Nursery and Landscape Association to develop voluntary *Guidelines for Selecting Horticultural Plant Material for Montana*; these guidelines are posted on the MNLA and MNPS websites. We helped craft the state weed management plan, our weed subcommittee took the lead in producing the 2002 Montana Noxious Weed Calendar that focused on native plants and habitats, and we continue to serve on the noxious weed advisory committee. MNPS, along with Montana Audubon, lobbied for legislative changes to protect native grasslands. This past year MNPS hosted the fourth Montana Plant Conservation Conference in Helena and is working with land management agencies to develop a list of threatened species. In addition, we regularly comment on public land management issues, such as old growth, research natural areas, energy development, weeds, and travel management. Local chapters organize weed pulls and work to educate the public on conservation issues pertaining to native plants. We've done a lot in the past 20 years, and it looks like there will be plenty more to do in the future.

Peter Lesica



NATIVE PLANT DISEASES

Small Grant Program

The Small Grant Program had its genesis at the 1996 annual meeting when the Society discussed the value of awarding small grants to promote conservation and education of Montana's native flora and decided to form a committee chaired by Angie Evenden of Missoula. The purpose of the committee is to solicit and review small grant proposals and make a funding recommendation to the board. Once the project is underway the committee chair tracks progress and reports accomplishments to the Society at the annual meeting. Since starting the program, the Society has helped its members accomplish many interesting conservation-minded projects, some of which are described below.

A native plant landscaping project at Longfellow School completed by Linda Babcock and her 5th grade class won a Bozeman Beautification award in 2002; A research project conducted by Tarn Ream at the University of Montana investigated the impacts of harvesting *Trillium ovatum*. Her findings will help inform guidelines for conservation planning and sustainable use of the species; An educational garden was created by Janie Burns, Rene Kittle, and Dawn Thomas, Salish & Kootenai College's Native Plant Nursery interns. The native plant garden was used to inform visitors and environmental science students about native plants; A restoration and demonstration native plant landscaping project led by Vicky Lawrence, volunteer with Libby Revitalization, Inc., helped fix a problem area. The project was a successful community partnership; An educational poster titled *The 10 Most Desired Native Plants* prepared by Marijka Wessner, Weed Education

Specialist, was such a hit that a second edition was published and distributed to schools, counties, and other education outlets. The poster depicts desirable native grasses and wildflowers found in Montana's open spaces; A hands-on native plant gardening project, inspired by The Flagship Program, Lisa Beczkiewicz, and others, helped educate hundreds of young kids in the K- 12 Conservation Education Curriculum in Missoula; An educational trunk, created by Carla Wambach of Helena, used a curriculum of Montana native plants interwoven with the Lewis and Clark story to pique an interest and pleasure in the subject of native plants. The trunk was distributed to schools, teachers, community groups, and clubs across Montana; The society co-sponsored an educational field workshop on noxious weeds with Jami Belt and the Glacier Institute in northwest Montana. The workshop took place at Lone Pine State Park, which proved to be a good place to learn about identifying and mapping weeds in the field and the positive benefits of preserving native plants as a way to prevent noxious weed invasion; An educational project with Jan Metzmaker and the seventh and eighth grade science classes at Whitefish Central School observed Arbor Day by planting native shrubs and ground cover at the school.

Funding for the Small Grant Program comes from membership dues and generous contributions made directly to the Society specifically for this program. Members and Montana residents are welcome to apply. For more information, read the flyer in this newsletter or check <http://www.umt.edu/mnps/>. Not quite 20 years of accomplishments yet, but we are well on our way!

Cathie Jean

Available from MNPS

Available free from MNPS Publications: MNPS membership brochures, *Plant Collection Guidelines for Teachers* brochures, and *Echinacea Cultivation Information*. Also available are additional copies of *Plants Collected in Montana During the Lewis & Clark Expedition*. Please send a SASE to 1270 Lower Sweet Grass Road, Big Timber, MT 59011 to receive any of these publications.

Available from the Flathead Chapter: a packet of information about gardening with Flathead Valley native plants. The packet can be mailed to you for \$3.50. Contact Tara Carolin at 334 North Many Lakes Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Available from the Kelsey Chapter: a packet of information on landscaping with natives in the Helena area. The packet will be mailed to you for \$3.50. Contact Kathy at 449-6586 or e-mail: drakekath@hughes.net. to order.

Available from the Valley of Flowers Chapter: a booklet of information on landscaping with natives in the Bozeman, Livingston, and Big Timber areas. The booklet will be mailed to you for \$6.50. Contact Denise Montgomery at 586-0156 or e-mail: nmontgomery@montanadsl.net to order.

Visit the MNPS website at www.umt.edu/mnps to download in pdf format *Weeds Listed as Noxious by Montana Counties*, a list of weeds that are targeted by each county; *Guidelines for Selecting Horticultural Plant Material for Montana*, voluntary guidelines by MNPS and the Montana Nursery and Landscape Association; and *Lewis & Clark Plants Collected Elsewhere That Occur in Montana*, an inclusive list of Lewis & Clark plants found in

Missing Two Camp Chairs?

Did you leave two camp chairs at the Native Plant Society annual meeting at Wall Creek in the Gravellys last July? They are blue, and if you want to retrieve them, give Beth Judy a call in Missoula at 406-728-4711.



The Landscape and Revegetation Committee ... a growing legacy

As the present chair and long time committee member, I decided to go back in time to see just when and why we started a landscape/reveg committee, what the committee accomplished, and who was involved. Because I am such a packrat, I actually have three notebooks of old *Kelseya* newsletters. This greatly aided my half-century-old memory.

Starting with the very first annual meeting in 1988, a standing committee informally led by Shelly Engler of Bozeman was formed. The role of this committee was to address issues and concerns involving the use of plant species indigenous to Montana in environments disturbed and created by man. Goals of the committee were to educate both suppliers and consumers of native plants about which species are indigenous to our region and to specific microclimates, what environmental and cultural requirements must be satisfied to grow them successfully; and to develop a source list of reputable growers of native species. An ambitious beginning!

At the second annual meeting more goals were identified, such as the need for a landscape column in the newsletter, the need to monitor Montana nurseries for propagation and sale of noxious weeds and potentially weedy species, the ethics of propagation/collection of native species, and a directory of existing native plant gardens in the state. Lisa Larsen was the temporary chair, followed by Greg Hallsten as official chair.

The theme for the 1991 annual

meeting in Glacier Park was Native Plant Landscaping and Restoration. Keynote speaker Art Kruckeberg gave an enlightening talk entitled 'Gardening with Natives: from Rock Gardens to Habitat Restoration.' Panel discussions revolved around Ethics in Native Plant Restoration, Backcountry Restoration, and Gardening with Natives. Jerry DeSanto gave a very entertaining slide show on his own experiences with rock gardening. There were tours of the Glacier Park Native Plant Nursery.

Appropriately, at that meeting, we hatched out the Native Plant Source Guide and a Gardens and Gardeners list. We were starting to accomplish goals set at the formation of the committee. The first edition of the *Source Guide for Native Plants of Montana* was available in spring 1992. We went on to publish two more updated editions, in 1998 and 2003. The Native Gardens and Gardeners list came out in 1994. Special thanks goes to Harvey Bjornlie for his dedication and countless hours of computer time in producing all these publications.

The work on guidelines to collect/propagate native plants was delegated to the Education Committee. In 1993 official guidelines were included in the spring *Kelseya* and subsequent source guides.

In the winter of 1995, Wayne Phillips took over chairmanship of the committee. Wayne was an integral participant in native landscaping for the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Great Falls. We all know the enthusiasm that Wayne has brought into our Society. In the spring of 1996, John Pierce took a turn at it. John is renowned for his native plant restoration at the Clark Fork Native

Prairie in John Toole Park in Missoula.

Although we never had an official landscape column in the newsletter, many articles relating to native plant landscaping and revegetation have sprung up over the years. Not officially a landscape committee project, in 1997 we produced Publications About Native Plants which included several references on landscaping with natives.

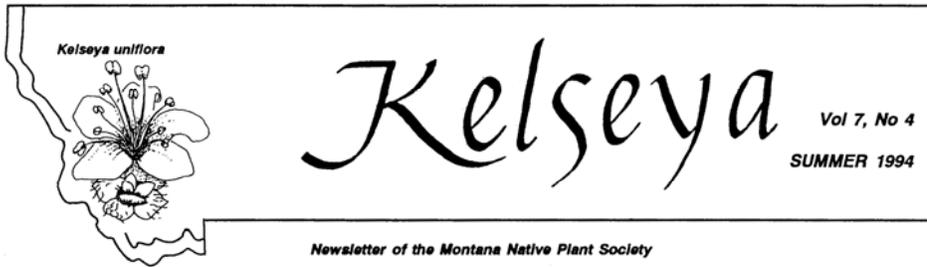
In spring of 2001, I took the helm of the committee. I was thrilled to help individual chapters produce detailed guides for using native plants in landscaping. The Kelsey Chapter and Kathy Lloyd is to be commended for paving the way by writing the first version for the Helena area. Subsequently, the Flathead and Bozeman areas produced versions for their regions. These informative booklets have detailed plant, reference, nursery, public garden, and website lists specific to each region. Montana is a big state, so we need localized information. All of the booklets are available on our website (www.umd.edu/mnps).

Individual chapters have embraced native plant landscaping at many levels by conducting plant sales, volunteering in native gardens, participating in revegetation efforts, and organizing workshops and native garden tours. Clark Fork Chapter member Sheila Morrison authored a book on growing 150 natives from seed, called *The Magic of Montana Native Plants*. Statewide, the MNPS Small Grant Program has funded several native gardens in chapter regions.

To satisfy yet another goal of the original founding flowers, a special committee led by conservation chairman Peter Lesica teamed up with the Montana Nursery and Landscape Association to draft a series of voluntary guidelines to help MNLA members choose plant materials safe for horticultural introduction. These guidelines were adopted by MNLA in 2003 and are posted on our website. We also worked with DNRC to update their brochure *Firewise Landscaping for Woodland Homes* with suitable native plant species.

I have probably left out something, but in looking back, I realize that we

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Phylogenetic position of *Kelseya* based on molecular data

Dan Potter and Shannon Still, Department of Plant Sciences, Mail Stop 2, University of California, One Shields Avenue, Davis, California, 95616, USA

The genus *Kelseya* Rydb., namesake of this newsletter, contains a single species, *K. uniflora* (Wats.) Rydb. Members of this species are cushion-forming shrublets with solitary pink flowers; they are found on limestone in restricted areas of the mountains of Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho. *Kelseya* is a member of the rose family, Rosaceae, and recent taxonomic treatments of the family have included *Kelseya* within tribe Spiraeae, along with the largest and type genus for the tribe, *Spiraea* L., and several other small genera (Table 1). *Kelseya* is one of three genera in the tribe found in mountainous areas of western North America that are characterized by reduced growth habits; the other two are *Luetkea* and *Petrophyton*. In 1890, Sereno Watson classified these taxa in three sections, *Eriogynia*, *Kelseya*, and *Petrophyton* of the genus *Eriogynia* Hook. The type species of that genus, *E. pectinata* (Pursh) Hook., however, was determined by Kuntze in 1891 to be synonymous with the earlier-named *Luetkea siboldioides* Bongard; thus, the correct name for the taxon is *Luetkea pectinata* Kuntze. In 1900, P. A. Rydberg elevated Watson's other two sections of *Eriogynia* to generic level (but with a change in spelling in one case), thereby recognizing the three currently accepted genera.

A primary focus of research in my lab at UC Davis over the last decade has been the examination of phylogenetic relationships in Rosaceae, including family-level studies and in-depth analyses of particular genera and groups of genera. The roughly 100 genera and 3,000 species in the family have been classified in four (as in Schulze-Menz's 1964 widely used treatment) to 12 (in Takhtajan's 1997 treatment) subfamilies, many of which have been further subdivided into tribes, or alternatively, in 17 tribes which are not grouped in subfamilies (as in Hutchinson's 1964 treatment). All of these classifications have recognized Tribe Spiraeae, with some variation in the number of genera included.

Beginning with a study of relationships across Rosaceae based on sequences of the chloroplast gene *rbcl* by David Morgan and colleagues in 1994, molecular phylogenetic analyses in several labs, including ours, have suggested that none of the previous classifications of the family accurately reflects our understanding of evolutionary relationships among the genera. For example, of Schulze-Menz's four subfamilies, which were defined primarily on the basis of fruit types, only one, Maloideae, has been supported as monophyletic, and it is consistently nested within a large group consisting of lineages formerly classified in Spiraeoideae, Amygda-loideae, and a few Rosoideae.

Over the past several years, we have collaborated with several other research groups in the U.S. and Europe to conduct analyses of phylogenetic relationships across the families based on thorough taxonomic sampling and multiple genes, with the goal of producing a new phylogenetically based infrafamilial

classification of Rosaceae. In that classification, which will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Plant Systematics and Evolution*, we recognize three subfamilies, Rosoideae, Dryadoideae, and Spiraeoideae, and within the latter we recognize seven tribes, one of which is Spiraeae as circumscribed in Table 1, although no material of the Korean genus *Pentactina* has been available for inclusion in any molecular phylogenetic studies to date.

In 2002, we initiated a phylogenetic study of Spiraeae. We obtained material of the genera listed in Table 1, except *Pentactina*, from a variety of sources, including our own field collections or those of colleagues, accessions for botanical gardens and arboreta, and, in a few cases, herbarium specimens. In September 2002, I traveled for several days to southern Montana and northern Wyoming intending to collect material of *Kelseya* and *Petrophyton*. Although I was able to collect material from several populations of *P. caespitosum* in the Bighorn Mountains, *Kelseya uniflora* eluded me. Fortunately, shortly thereafter, Matt Lavin put me in touch with Drake Barton and Kathy Lloyd, who generously provided some material from one of Drake's collections from Trout Creek Canyon in Lewis and Clark County; that collection has represented the genus in the analyses described here. It was also at this time that I learned that the plant was the namesake for this newsletter. I therefore felt both excitement and apprehension about adding this species to our analyses; what if it turned out that our results would suggest that *K. uniflora* should be transferred to *Spiraea*?

I am happy to report that is not what we found. Our phylogenetic analyses of this group using chloroplast *trnL-trnF* and nuclear rDNA ITS produced phylogenetic trees, in which the tribe is divided into two well supported clades, one including *Aruncus*, *Luetkea*, *Holodiscus*, and *Xerospiraea*, the second including *Sibiraea*, *Kelseya*, *Petrophyton*, and *Spiraea*. The results, which will be published in the same issue of *Plant*

(Continued on page 7)

...*Kelseya* (Continued from page 6)

Systematics and Evolution in which the new classification of Rosaceae will appear, support recognition of all eight of these as distinct genera: *Spiraea*, from which we sampled 24 species representing all three sections recognized by Rehder and the full geographic range of the genus, was strongly supported as monophyletic, and none of the other genera were nested within it.

Our analyses support the separation of the three genera with reduced growth habits, *Kelseya*, *Luetkea*, and *Petrophyton*, and suggest that evolution of a reduced growth habit has occurred at least twice within Spiraeaceae, with one event producing trailing subshrubs in *Luetkea*, and at least one resulting in the rosette-forming shrublets found in *Petrophyton* and *Kelseya*. Our analyses also suggest that the reduced habit may have been secondarily lost

in *Spiraea*, but relationships among *Kelseya*, *Petrophyton*, *Sibiraea*, and *Spiraea* are not well supported and additional studies may reveal a sister relationship between *Kelseya* and *Petrophyton*, as was found in the multigene analysis of Rosaceae (which, however, was based on more limited sampling within Spiraeaceae).

Our results suggest that the common ancestor of Spiraeaceae occurred in western North America, with independent migrations to the Old World occurring in *Aruncus*, *Sibiraea*, and *Spiraea*. The ancestral area for *Spiraea* could not be reconstructed unequivocally based on our results, but a complex biogeographic history of the genus, involving multiple dispersal and/or vicariant events between the Old and New Worlds, and several independent migrations between Europe, western/central Asia, and eastern Asia, with the possibility that the different events may have pro-

ceeded in different directions, are suggested. Within *Spiraea*, none of Rehder's sections, which he recognized based on inflorescence morphology, is supported as monophyletic.

We intend to continue phylogenetic analyses of this group, focusing on increasing our taxon sampling especially within *Spiraea*, from which we sampled only 24 out of an estimated 50-80 species, and sampling other genes in an effort to improve the weak support for resolution of relationships among major clades of species in our analyses. Based on the results of phylogenetic analyses of such expanded data sets, a new infrageneric classification for *Spiraea* should eventually be proposed. We also hope to obtain material of *Pentactina* to include in future studies. Finally, I hope, in the not too distant future, to be able to return to Montana and observe *Kelseya* in its natural habitat.

Table 1. Characteristics of genera of Spiraeaceae.

Genus and Section		Number of Species	Habit	Leaves	Inflorescence	Distribution
<i>Aruncus</i> Adans.		1	perennial herb	2-3 pinnate	panicle	n temp
<i>Holodiscus</i> Maxim.		5	erect shrub	simple serrate	panicle	w N Am - n S Am
<i>Kelseya</i> Rydb.		1	cushion plant	simple entire	solitary	MT, WY
<i>Luetkea</i> Bong.		1	trailing subshrub	biterminate	raceme	w N Am
<i>Pentactina</i> Nakai		1	erect shrub	simple serrate	raceme	Korea
<i>Petrophyton</i> Rydb.		4	prostrate shrub	simple entire	raceme	w N Am
<i>Sibiraea</i> Maxim.		5	erect shrub	simple entire	panicle	se Eu - w Asia
<i>Spiraea</i> L.		50-80	erect shrub	simple serrate	variable	n temp
Section	<i>Spiraea</i>	10-20	erect shrub	simple serrate	panicle	e/w N Am, Eu, Asia
	<i>Calospira</i> K. Koch	20-30	erect shrub	simple serrate	corymb	Eu, Asia, e/w N Am
	<i>Chamaedryon</i> Ser.	20-30	erect shrub	simple serrate	umbel	Eu, Asia
<i>Xerospiraea</i> Henr.		1	erect shrub	simple entire	rac./pan.	Mexico

CALENDAR

Please remember to leave pets at home during MNPS field trips.

ARTEMISIA CHAPTER

For a schedule of Artemisia Chapter events or to get your questions answered, please call Leslie at 445-9178.

Thursday, January 11, 7:00 p.m.

Jolene Rieck, landscape architect with Peaks to Plains Design, will give a presentation on landscape design at ZooMontana, Billings.

Thursday, February 8, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Jennifer Lyman, professor of environmental studies at Rocky Mountain College, will give a slide presentation on her recent trip to Costa Rica focusing on the botany and ornithology of that region at ZooMontana, Billings.

Thursday, March 22, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Cathy Cripps, mycology professor at Montana State University, will give a presentation on edible mushroom identification at ZooMontana, Billings.

Thursday, April 12, 7:00 p.m.

Sandy King, President of SMK Plants, will give a tour of her micro-propagation (tissue culture) lab and explain the procedures she uses to produce plantlets. The program will be at 5477 Gene Sarazen Drive, Billings.

CALYPSO CHAPTER

For further information, please e-mail Debbie Mueller at lowellave@msn.com or call Catherine Cain at 406-832-3404.

Thursday, January 18, 6:00 p.m.

Harold Johns will present "*Flowers from the Lewis and Clark Era*." Science Dept. of Montana Tech.

Wednesday, February 7, 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Grant Mitman will present a program on "*Mushroom Cultivation*." Science Dept. of Montana Tech.

CLARK FORK CHAPTER

Thursday, January 11, 7:30 p.m.

These days there is a lot of controversy about the future of Carlton Ridge on Lolo Peak, but did you know that botany is at the heart of it? Retired Forest Service ecologists Clint Carlson and Steve Arno have been doing research up there for decades. Come and hear what they have to say about the "*Botanical and Ecological Features of the Carlton Ridge Research Natural Area*." Rm. L09 Gallagher Business Bldg., UM Campus.

Tuesday, January 30, 7:30 p.m.

Herbarium Night. "*Chatterboxes and fairy slippers and twayblades...Oh my!*"

Let's learn a little about Montana's orchids with Forest Service botanist James Riser. Rm. 303, Botany Bldg., UM Campus.

Thursday, February 8, 7:30 p.m.

Jetlag Joe Elliott has been spending a lot of time overseas lately, practicing his trade of plant ecology in exotic places. Be sure to be there when he tells us about one of them, "*Agriculture in Ghana: From Tropical Forest to Fields and Back Again*." Rm. L09 Gallagher Business Bldg., UM Campus.

Tuesday, February 27, 7:30 p.m.

Herbarium night. What do black currant, marijuana and the rare Spalding's catchfly have in common? Join botanist Peter Lesica to find out "*Everything You Need to Know about Plant Glands*." This promises to be one of the most arcane presentations we've ever had. Rm. 303, Botany Bldg., UM Campus.

Thursday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.

Restoration is a growth industry in Montana's national forests these days, and Cathy Stewart, fire ecologist for Region One, has been in on the ground floor. She plans to tell us about "*Restoring Fire to the Bitterroot Landscape*." Rm. L09 Gallagher Business Bldg., UM Campus.

Tuesday, March 27, 7:30 p.m.

Herbarium work night. Members of Friends of the Herbarium and the Montana Native Plant Society will dust and decorate cabinets, label folders, and organize the teaching collections. Bring pictures of wildflowers from old calendars or what-have-you. Call Dave Dyer (243-4743) if you plan to attend. Rm. 303, Botany Bldg., UM Campus.

Thursday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.

Can you remember the names of those wildflowers? You haven't seen them for nearly a year. Get an early-season refresher when Clark Fork Chapter photographers show slides of "*Western Montana's Grassland Wildflowers*." Rm. L09 Gallagher Business Bldg., UM Campus.

EASTERN MONTANA

For more information about Eastern Montana events call Wayne Phillips at 453-0648.

FLATHEAD CHAPTER

Please note our new location and meeting date. The Flathead Chapter meetings and programs meet on the first Wednesday of each month. Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. and all programs begin at 7:00 p.m. We meet at the Flathead County Library in Kalispell in the Meeting Room down-

stairs. Everyone is welcome to the business and working meetings. In addition to organizing a Plant Identification Workshop for our April meeting, we will again be organizing a plant photo and art contest for the community that will be held during the summer. Call Jen Asebrook at 863-9630 for information.

Wednesday, January 3

A working meeting to plan our workshop on *Plant Family Identification* that we are hosting in April. Learn about these plant families as we put together information. No official program.

Wednesday, February 7

Join Janis Taylor for an interesting program on "*Land Cover Trends in Montana*."

Wednesday, March 7

"*Native Plant Gardening Forum*." Bill McClaren, Joyce Lapp, and Terry Divoky will offer tips on how you can have your very own native plant garden.

Wednesday, April 4

"*Plant Family Identification Workshop*." Join us for an interactive workshop to learn the differences between several common plant families. Lots of handouts, slides, and looking at plant specimens.

Wednesday, May 2

Look for details on our first field trip of 2007. This will likely be an evening hike to see some spring wildflowers.

KELSEY CHAPTER

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

Friday, March 2, 7:00 p.m.

Join Wayne Phillips for an evening of "*Grasses, Sedges, & Rushes*." The hands-on event will focus on grass morphology and ID. Helena Community Credit Union, 915 Kessler.

February and March

Two hands-on study nights, one on *Antennaria* and one on *Juncus*, are in the planning stages. Call Kathy for details.

MAKA FLORA CHAPTER

For information about the Maka Flora Chapter or events call Rebecca Kallevig at 488-5455.

VALLEY OF FLOWERS

During the fall and winter, the Valley of Flowers Chapter meets on the second Tuesday of each month in Room 108 of

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...Calendar (Continued from page 8)

the AgbioScience Building at MSU. The building is on South 11th, and parking is free in the evening in the lot north of the building. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact Monica Pokorny at 763-4109.

Tuesday, January 9, 7:00 p.m.

Cathy Cripps, MSU Assistant Professor Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, will present "Alpine Mushrooms of the Beartooth Plateau and Rocky Mountain Tundra." The cold windswept alpine hardly seems like a place to collect mushrooms, but a variety of cold-adapted fungi do indeed live above treeline. With only a 4-week fruiting season, the mushrooms are easy to miss. But their roles as decomposers and nutrient gatherers for plants make them an important part of the ecosystem. MSU mycologist Cathy Cripps is completing the first survey of alpine fungi in the Rocky Mountains (funded by the National Science Foundation). She will present her findings in a colorful slide show of alpine mushrooms in their natural habitats on the Beartooth Plateau, and in Colorado on Loveland and Independence Pass, and the Jan Juan Mountains.

Tuesday, February 13, 7:00 p.m.

Lynn Burton, Ecologist, U.S. Forest Service will present "Wildflowers in Wildplaces." The presentation will be a photographic walk through high elevation wildflowers and wildplaces of the northern Yellowstone Ecosystem, the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, and the northeast Oregon Hells Canyon National Recreation and Eagle Cap Wilderness areas. Come join us for a walk on the wild side.

Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 p.m.

Cathie Jean, Program Manager, Greater Yellowstone Inventory & Monitoring Network, will present "Recent vascular plant inventories in Yellowstone NP and Bighorn Canyon NRA." Over the last few years the NPS Inventory & Monitoring program has conducted inventories to document the presence of vascular plants in the national park system. This presentation will share discoveries and relate how this information is used to understand biological diversity.

Tuesday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.

Patrick Plantenberg will present "Edible Wild Plants Used in Montana Yesterday and Today." Patrick is a Reclamation Specialist with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality in Helena, is Secretary of the Montana Native Plant

Society, and runs Plants Etc., a landscaping business in Townsend that he started in Bozeman in 1981. Patrick started teaching edible wild plant classes while he was a student at MSU in the early 1970's. He stresses the use of plants that are easy to collect and use in today's society, focusing on introduced plants rather than natives. Most people don't realize how many plants are out there that can be used starting as early as April. Start enjoying fresh vegetables early this year!

WESTERN MONTANA

For information about activities in western Montana, call Erich Pfalzer at 406-827-4078.

FireWorks

FireWorks: a trunk of educational materials and a curriculum for hands-on learning about wildland fire. A *FireWorks* Master Class, 2.5 days in length, will be held in Missoula, Wednesday-Friday, February 21-23. To sign up or for more information, contact Autumn Yanzick at 406-829-6894 (ayanzick@fs.fed.us). *FireWorks* master classes offer in-depth study of fire behavior and ecology, cover most of the 36 activities in the curriculum, and prepare you to teach *FireWorks* in the classroom and in workshops for teachers. Montana O.P.I. credit and University credit are available.

Calypso Chapter Reflects

The Calypso Chapter continues to offer enjoyable native plant educational opportunities for anyone who wants to participate. This includes field trips throughout southwestern Montana, interesting classroom presentations, and fun potluck socials. Also, we have generated and participated in regional reclamation and experimental native plant projects that contribute to the community and region at large. We wish all members of MNPS joy and peace this holiday season!

Catherine Cain

...Landscaping (Continued from page 5)

have really accomplished much good for native plant landscaping in 20 years. What's next on the horizon? We want to put the list of native plant nurseries and seed dealers on the website with detailed information on the plants they carry, and update it regularly. Supporting and encouraging the propagation of native plants has always been important to me as a landscape designer. We are currently running a series of *Kelsey* articles on native plant growers. The website is a great place to display photos of native plant gardens and nurseries throughout the state; the committee is looking for images to include on a webpage. The website can also provide links to more information specific to western reclamation and revegetation. If you have ideas and energy for this committee, please lend a hand.

Linda Iverson

...Kelsey (Continued from page 1)

Francis Kelsey left Montana in 1893 to accept the first professorship of botany at Oberlin College in Ohio. During that 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 Vol. 1 No. 4 Summer 1988

...Kelsey Chapter (Continued from page 10)

web. Thanks to Janet Ellis and Montana Audubon, the chapter worked with Growing Friends of Helena to develop a planting policy that excludes the use of Russian olive, European buckthorn, and tamarisk, and mandates planting native species along waterways and in natural areas.

The chapter has held free public programs, events, classes, weed-pulls, and hikes each year, expanded its membership base, and generated interest in Montana's native plants. Good work Kelsey Chapter; I'm sure the next 20 years will be even better!

Kathy Lloyd



Kelsey Chapter Looks Backward & Forward

After 20 years, it is encouraging to look through old records and realize how much we have done, how much fun we have had, and how much richer our lives are because of our love for Montana's native flora.

It looks like folks in Helena were active right from the beginning, with Steve Shelly presenting a program called Rare Plants of Montana on October 29, 1987. The Kelsey Chapter was officially formed in February 1989, named after F.D. Kelsey who first collected the Society's mascot plant. The Kelsey Chapter hosted the 2nd annual meeting of the Society in May 1989, and again in 1999. And don't forget the annual meeting we are hosting this year at Georgetown Lake! The Kelsey Chapter has been involved in many projects over the years. In 1989 a native garden was planted on the capitol complex east of the Justice Building. Unfortunately, as I walk by the area, I see few forbs, but there are still native shrubs in evidence. Ever since 1994, the chapter has educated and entertained the public with a series of newspaper articles about native plants; and since 1997 has participated annually in a Celebrating Wildflowers event for school kids on Mount Helena. The chapter completed a survey and collection of nearly 300 vascular plants found on Mount Helena, mounted and labeled the specimens, and donated the collection, along with a custom cabinet, to the Lewis and Clark Library. The collection is accessible on the library's website, the first collection in Montana to be available via the

(Continued on page 9)

Flathead Chapter Remembers Summer

As you enjoy the cold days and long nights of winter, I want to reminisce about our summer activities. The Flathead Chapter hosted eight field trips, and had several other events between May and September. Every field trip had a good turn out with five to 20 people, many of them not yet MNPS members.

The season started with a couple of events that have become annual traditions. The chapter, along with Flathead National Forest botany employees, presented lessons on native plants to more than 400 kids during Flathead Forestry Expo the second week of May. Each day classes of 5th graders moved through a series of about eight outdoor learning stations that explored natural resource management from fish and wildlife to "leave no trace" recreation. The Expo is sponsored by many agencies, businesses, and non-profits. Then, every Tuesday morning during May and June, Anne Morley and Robin Magaddino of Audubon co-lead walks along the Swan River in Bigfork—flowers and birds.

Instead of our regular monthly meeting in May, the Jens (Asebrook and Hintz) led a short walk up the Columbia Mountain trail. It was a nice spring evening and about half the crowd was out-of-state visitors. In true MNPS style, it took at least two hours to cover about a mile.

On a rainy Saturday in June, 10 hardy hikers explored Johnson Terrace, an intriguing moss-covered rocky slope. The micro-sites there harbor strikingly different plants within just a few feet of each other. Much of the area has little or no soil

and thick cushions of moss cover the rocks. We found out quickly that the moss isn't anchored and slides easily on the wet rock when you step on it. It takes you down hard. We saw lots of death camas, larkspur, shooting stars, and many diminutive flowers including species of draba, tarweed, sandwort, and saxifrage.

Later in June, Maria Mantas led a tour of Dancing Prairie Preserve north of Eureka. It was a nice, warm day and Maria had to push us along to get to the small stand of trees for a shady lunch spot. We saw lots of native prairie grasses and wildflowers, as well as several weeds that The Nature Conservancy is trying to control. But the highlight of the day was finding Spalding's catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) in bloom; we saw a least a hundred of them. This species is special to the Flathead Chapter because we worked with the Conservation Committee to get it listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act.

In July, Linh Hoang organized a weed pull to help protect a site in the Swan valley where the rare gumweed, *Grindelia howellia* grows. This area had illegal (mud bogging) use by off-road vehicles for several years before the Forest Service got it fenced. Montana Conservation Corp and volunteers pulled knapweed, ox-eye daisy, and other pesky weeds. Then we visited the nearby nature trail that sports a beautiful interpretive sign about water howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*) that the MNPS "howellia fund" helped pay for.

Our finale, on August 5, was a hike, not a stroll, to Lake Mountain in the Whitefish Range. The alpine flora was out in all its glory and the subalpine larch was just beginning to turn yellow. Rebecca Durham, the trip leader, listed more 80 species. For some, the highlight was seeing the tiny *Botrychium lunaria* growing on the edge of the rocky trail at the very top of the mountain. The biggest one was about an inch tall!

Remember and cherish those summer field days: the smells, the views, the plants, the friends. If you missed them last year, plan to join us next summer.

Betty Kuropat

MNPS Chapters & the Areas They Serve:

- ARTEMISIA CHAPTER - Yellowstone and Carbon Counties; southeastern/south-central Montana
- 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: ART= Artemisia; CAL=Calypso; CF=Clark Fork; F=Flathead; K=Kelsey; MF= Maka Flora; VOF=Valley of Flowers
 DATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: If your label reads "2/06" your membership expired February 28, 2006. Use this form to renew your membership TODAY! Please drop us a note if any information on your label is incorrect. Please notify us promptly of address changes.

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MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

Name (please print) _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ New Membership (✓) _____ Renewal (✓) _____

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

Membership Dues	Price with chapter affiliation	Price no chapter affiliation
Individual	\$20	\$15
Family	\$25	\$20
Business/Organization	\$40	\$35
Living Lightly	\$15	\$15
Lifetime (one-time payment)	\$300	

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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 *Kelseya*, the quarterly newsletter of MNPS. We welcome your articles, field trip reports, book reviews, 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) for a PC, and sent electronically to: drakekath@hughes.net or mailed to *Kelseya* Editors, 314 Travis Creek Rd., Clancy, MT 59634.

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

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

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