



MONTANA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

**Minutes, Spring Board of Directors Meeting
10 am To 3 pm Saturday March 2, 2019**

MSC- Motioned, seconded and carried votes
Separate documents in ()

Hazardous travel conditions necessitated a phone in meeting w/ Bob Person attending Westech's conference line in Helena. Some items included here were not discussed, only submitted to Rachel (e.g. Chapter reports).

Calling in - Gretchen Rupp, Bob Person, Patrick Plantenberg, Maria Mantas, Cathie Jean, Caroline Kurtz, Jeff Copeland, Karen Porter, Becca Durham, and Rachel Potter, recording, from the UM herbarium w/ Shannon Kimball.

Maria reminded us to mute our phones when not speaking to minimize background noise.

Secretary's Report - Rachel Potter

- Maria was added to attendees of the Summer BOD meeting. Minutes of the 2018 Summer Membership and Fall 2018 BOD meeting were approved. MSC.
- Reprinting Pioneer Botanist will be revisited during the fall BOD meeting. The book is currently ~\$3500 in the black. While cash outlay will be needed, Rachel is confident it will eventually be recouped. Reviews have been excellent and retailers have orders on hold.
- See (MNPS Board Contacts 20190412.docx). Please review and send Rachel needed revisions.
- Rachel will send out a link to BOD Procedures and Policy documents.

Treasurer's Report - Shannon Kimball

- 2018 Financial Report. There was \$39,034 in the bank on Dec. 31, 2018 see (2018 Balance Sheet.pdf) and \$45,359 on March 1, 2019 (2019 Balance Sheet.pdf).

We budgeted for a \$6,500 loss in 2018. However, with income of \$5,564 from the Clark Fork Chapter's annual meeting, and \$1,727 from the Plant Conservation Conference, the year ended \$2,070 in the black, even after \$5,000 going to the Plant Conservation Strategy (not budgeted). Membership income was close to prediction while small grants, Kelseya, and awards came in under budget. See (2018 Budget.pdf)

- 2019 Budget. The 2019 Budget was discussed through the meeting and then finalized and approved at the end of the meeting. MSC. See (2019 Approved Budget.pdf). Changes from 2018 to 2019

include \$1000 for marketing and \$1500 for the Montana Arboretum, but we do not have the Plant Conservation Strategy expense.

- Logo redesign: Shannon received a bill from a collection company for \$2,573.85 from Six Pony Hitch (SPH) for logo redesign. Discussion between Shannon, Gretchen and Spider, owner of SPH began.

In summary:

- At the Spring 2017 meeting, the BOD approved spending \$1,000 for redesign to a satisfactory logo. \$4,150 had already been spent on the initial logo. Kathy and Clare were taking the lead.
- At the June 2017 BOD meeting, Kathy reported redesign was in process and she was overseeing it. At some point Clare reported that SPH “owns” the logo and we cannot revise ourselves. One draft ‘sketch’ was rejected. We received the new logo package before October 2017.
- Bills were sent by SPH to Clare Beelman but not received by MNPS treasurers until Statement #1351 for \$2,573.85 dated 1/30/2019 was delivered by a collection company.

In conclusion:

- MNPS did not adequately convey to SPH our budget for redesign.
- SPH may have some internal organization and communication issues themselves as shown by their inability to provide detailed invoices throughout the project. Kathy S. conveyed that one of the charges was not authorized by her.
- MNPS failed to communicate between ourselves by not transferring the bill to the treasurers and no one else followed up.
- In general, MNPS feels we were grossly overcharged for a very simple redesign.
- The MNPS needs a contracting policy. Gretchen will draft.
- Gretchen and Shannon will pursue the issue and report back to the BOD.
- Only \$1000 was included in 2019 budget for marketing, so this will add to the deficit.

Follow up March 22:

- *Gretchen presented the BOD with a draft Contracting Procedure that was well received but needs finalization.*
- *SPH agreed to waive the \$432.35 and 71.45 late fees.*
- *The BOD, voted by email to pay the remaining \$2,070.05.*

Newsletter Editor - Caroline Kurtz

- Caroline has had some email snafus. Please send her new emails rather than replying to old ones.
- Kelsey deadlines are March 10, June 10, September 10 and December 10. Field trip details are due April 10 for the booklet.
- There were some mistakes in the winter Kelsey due to an old template being picked up. Will be more attentive.
- The winter issue contained the WRONG annual meeting date. It is June 22-22, 2019! The call for awards nomination was not included, so the deadline has been extended.
- The spring 2019 issue will include a call for award nominations, the 2019 ballot (drafted by Rachel), balance sheet, and field trip registration and info.

Webmaster Report - Bob Person

For a complete report, see (Webmaster Report for Mar 2, 2019 meeting.pdf)

- A small redesign (~\$100) is needed for PayPal to report membership accurately. The BOD approved the expenditure, MSC. This should also improve annual meeting registration.
- A member asked about an online calendar, but these are exceedingly high maintenance so we will not pursue at this time.
- Rachel will ask Clare if member posts on FB can go directly to the page instead of in a “community” section to generate more discussion. *Later- we can't figure out how-rp.*

2019 Annual Meeting, Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park– Patrick Plantenberg and Bob Person

The BOD was presented with material detailing extensive planning for what promises to be an exciting meeting. The only suggestion was to reduce registration for children. Selected notes:

- Preconference tours start Friday morning, so plan to come early.
- Rainbow Campground is closest for those arriving early or in RVs. Reservations open April 16. Unlimited tenting, but not near your car. Parking is very limited. Lots of bunk space. Smaller units will be saved for families.
- Kids’ activities will be provided.
- Field trip sign up is with registration, so don’t dally sending it in.
- Medicare does not cover you in Canada. Buy travel insurance. It’s reasonable.
- Passports or passport cards now required for travel to Canada.
- The meeting will be expensive to put on. Kelsey Chapter is expecting cover overage from their treasury.

Rachel is going to suggest the Flathead Chapter offer a scholarship for a “young person” to attend the annual meeting.

Membership Report – Cathie Jean

See complete report Appendix A page 6.

Maria Mantas has agreed to be our new membership chairperson. Sasha Victor will continue to assist as co-chair and Carol Goffe from the Clark Fork chapter has offered to help periodically.

- **Membership budget** - \$313.70 for brochure and \$87.04 for misc. supplies and postage leaving the incoming membership chair a balance of ~\$100.00 for supplies and postage.
- **Numbers:** There were 510 *memberships* at the end of December, 2018. Multiplying for family memberships, we had 704 *members* as of 2/27/2019.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Small Grants Report – Becca Durham

See complete report Appendix B page 8.

The small grant committee received 12 small grant proposals by the 1/31/19 deadline. They recommended funding a total of \$4,500 for the following three proposals:

- Outdoor Education Center and Demonstration Garden- Flathead Conservation District
- Plant Diversity in Bedrock Meadows of north-western Montana- University of Alberta
- Yaak Valley weed control, revegetation and monitoring and huckleberry shrub monitoring after timber harvest- Yaak Valley Forest Council.

There was concern about ongoing maintenance of the Demonstration garden, but the committee felt the plan was excellent. The BOD voted to approve all 3 proposals for an expenditure of \$4,500

Betty concluded that changes to the 2018 grant recipient for *Does cultivation of MT wildflower species... cause unintended evolution* were not consistent with the original proposal and Betty has asked that they return the money.

Conservation Committee –Elizabeth Bergstrom, new co-Chair, with additions by Peter Lesica and Maria Mantas

- Elizabeth is looking forward to working with Peter on this transition to Conservation Committee Chairperson.
- Points from the 2 hour Native Plant Conservation conference call with about 2 dozen native plant societies that was joined by Elizabeth and Peter. Some touch on ideas discussed in Ryan's report of young-member comments:
 - Virginia's native plant society has stressed inclusivity and reaching out to non-traditional groups with chapter activities. This has included 4H clubs.
 - The Idaho Native Plant Society is very involved with the state's GLORIA monitoring efforts, (Global Monitoring and Research in Alpine Environments). While we have members that participate in this worldwide permanent plot monitoring effort of designated alpine summits, it seems there could be many college students also participating that would be interested in MNPS.
 - The Rhode Island group reached out to the public with an art show which included herbarium specimens from the 1800s.
 - The New Mexico NPS hired a young outreach coordinator to help get younger people involved. In addition to setting up social media outlets, she created a native plant coloring book and sold it to members and others.
 - One state used Google's Zoom to allow people to participate via telephone or computer.
 - The National Wildlife Federation has a "Native Plant Finder" that has lists of best native landscaping plants for insects for all different zip codes. The Federal Highway Administration has a similar website-Eco regional Revegetation Application that performs a similar function for roadside restoration.
 - There were more fun ideas from that conference call that Elizabeth wants to share later.
- We are updating the MNPS Threats Assessment, begun at the 2018 Conservation Conference. We will have a working group meeting in March and then finish up at the 2020 Conservation Conference.
- We will be working on providing a second round of comments on the Custer-Gallatin and Helena-Lewis & Clark national forest management plans.
- We will have a field trip to map and estimate population size of Montana's only population of *Physaria douglasii* with the Western-at large non-chapter in mid-May.

Plant Conservation Strategy- Maria

Maria summarized the work of the Montana Rare Plant Conservation Strategy (MTRPCS) Steering Committee. See a comprehensive (Report-Final_MTRPCS_2018-MNPSgrant_Mar312019.pdf) summarized briefly here:

- Task 1- **Research** was conducted through study of documents and in-depth conversations into the development of New Mexico and Colorado strategies that gave us a great deal of insight about how we should develop our strategy.

- Task 2- **Building a Partnership:** In addition to the Steering Committee, The team developed criteria for and invited Core Team and Supporting Partners
 - Core Team Members with technical expertise that would develop and write the strategy. (See Table 1 in report)
 - Supporting Partners that have an interest in rare plant conservation.
 - Target Audience. Organizations or individuals who own large tract of land and may or may not affiliate with conservation yet could significantly affect rare plant populations.
- Task 3- **Strategy Outline** needs participation of Core Team members, though a “prospectus” was prepared that provides an introduction addressing the need for a strategy and what elements we propose could be included.
- Task 4- **Financial Support** is envisioned from grants and in-kind or volunteer contributions from Core Team members. A number of grant sources were identified.

What’s next? The attached report completes Phase 1, funded by the MNPS. We are starting Phase 2 (Obtaining Funding). There will be a kick off meeting April 26, 2019 that 14 or so Core Team members are expected to attend. We will continue to inform the MNPS Board of our progress. We are grateful to MNPS for the generous support to tackle a difficult but important tool for rare plant conservation in Montana.

Landscaping Committee - vacant but discussion led by Gretchen.

- Chapters should search among their members for someone to lead the landscape committee, as well as hoping members engage more in committees.
- The MNPS might fund someone to continue the evaluation of funded native gardens and write a report. Cathie Jean will look into this (?)
- Chapters will all try to host at least one native garden field trip.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee - Peter Lesica and Betty Kuropat

- Gretchen Rupp, incumbent, will run for another term as president
- Shannon Kimball and Jenny Tollefson will run for another term as co-treasurers
- Kristina Boyd is running as Western Director-at-Large

Awards Committee- Maria Mantas and Kathy Lloyd

- A Call for nominations was not in the Winter Kelsey so nominations have been extended to November 1. Rachel will send link to BOD with Policy and Procedures, including for awards.

OTHER BUSINESS

2020 Annual Meeting- Jeff Copeland Valley of Flowers

There is an opportunity to hold the 2020 Annual Meeting in the Centennial Valley on the JBarL Ranch. The Centennial is notoriously hard to visit to the large amount of private land. While the meeting will be remote and primitive, costs are still expected to be high. Some that have worked with the landowner suggested she be approached to shoulder more of the expense. The BOD agreed this is an unusual opportunity and directed Valley of Flowers to consider to pursue the location, trying to keep costs down.

Demographics/Recruitment -

Ryan, in conjunction with Jess Brewer, presented to the BOD some suggestions and a very thoughtful discussion. See APPENDIX C page 9. Specific recommendations that BOD members thought practical to initiate in the short to midterm include:

- Circulate Trivia Night instructions. Highly successful Native Plant Trivia Nights have been conducted in Bozeman and Columbia Falls, with outstanding participation by young people.
- Host Field Trips for families (and be more dog friendly). Dog part was not endorsed by the BOD.
- More fun stuff. Stickers are an easy way to get our name and logo out there. Let's see them on roof boxes and water bottles. Gretchen will research.
- Swap meeting days around. Many young people have regular commitments that may conflict with regular MNPS meetings.
- Chapters offer scholarship to young person to attend Annual Meeting- idea added at meeting.
- Engage a university marketing intern for one semester to mount an Instagram page, design a sticker, and create other cool marketing materials. An ad-hoc committee was formed with Ryan, Caroline and Rachel. See Conservation Committee report from New Mexico NPS above. Caroline will inform Ryan that she has been appointed chair in absentia.
- More involvement in species and habitat protection.
 - We have seeded the Rare Plant Conservation Strategy. Additional Publicity about the Strategy is warranted.
 - Rare plant population surveys, especially in charismatic locations reachable by fit younger people may create interest.

See Ryan's complete report in **Suggestions for Increasing Younger Membership** APPENDIX C page 9 for more thoughtful ideas.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Flathead Chapter –Rachel

- Highlights since the BOD meeting were two great presentations: 1) An inspiring talk by Lech Naumovich, owner of a nonprofit restoration company in the Bay Area about successful citizen engagement, and 2) Tabitha Graves talking about bumblebee ecology delivered in a way that imparted a true celebration of science.
- While newly active member Hailey Moore is helping organize field trips this year, the Chapter continues to struggle greatly with recruiting volunteers to keep things going.

Calypso Chapter – Karen Porter

Held their annual potluck and planning meeting. Planned for later are a flora slide show and the 9th annual favorite "Gardening with Native Plants" workshop with multiple presenters, plants and seeds for sale. See complete report APPENDIX D Page 11.

APPENDIX A

Membership Report Spring 2019- Cathie Jean

- **Membership update** – Maria Mantas has agreed to be our new membership chairperson. She and I have started the transition in which she takes over as lead. Sasha Victor will

continue to assist as co-chair. Also Carol Goffe from the Clark Fork chapter has offered to help such as is helping to make the labels for the Clark Fork chapter activity postcard.

- **Membership budget** - Requested \$500 in 2019. To date 500 copies of the membership brochure have been printed (\$313.70) and the membership chair submitted a reimbursement claim request (\$87.04) leaving a balance for the incoming membership chair expenses of ~\$100.00 for supplies and postage.

Membership statistics –

Table A. MNPS membership HOUSEHOLDS at the end December 2018.

<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Individual</i>	<i>Family</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Lifetime</i>	<i>Grand Total</i>
Calypso	23	11		1	35
Clark Fork	109	30	2	19	160
Flathead	41	21	1	11	74
Kelsey	38	23	1	10	72
Maka Flora	9	4		1	14
Eastern-at-large	24	10	1	7	42
Western-at-large	13	6	2	5	26
Valley of Flowers	52	18	4	13	87
Grand Total	309	123	11	67	510

Table B. Annual membership for the Montana Native Plant Society (as of 2/27/2019).

	<i>CAL</i>	<i>CF</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>MF</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>SW</i>	<i>VOF</i>	<i>Reg Total</i>	<i>EXG</i>	<i>Grand Total</i>
2019	46	208	90	100	19	52	29	117	661	43	704
2018	46	200	95	102	19	54	31	113	660	43	703
2017	38	195	91	92	24	54	27	98	619	43	662
2016	65	204	79	90	20	59	29	102	648	43	691
2015	47	193	88	94	24	57	37	98	638	44	682
2014	50	163	73	85	21	57	37	89	575	44	619
2013	44	189	78	84	27	54	34	89	599	44	643

Table C. Annual membership income showing chapter and state distribution of funds for the past 5 years

<i>YEAR</i>	<i>TOTAL INCOME</i>	<i>CHAPTER SHARE</i>	<i>STATE SHARE</i>	<i>STATE DONATION</i>
2018	\$9,595	\$3,281	\$6,104	\$210
2017	\$11,360	\$3,528	\$7,832	
2016	\$10,321	\$3,354	\$6,967	
2015	\$9,658	\$3,400	\$6,258	
2014	\$9,705	\$2,902	\$6,803	
5-yr Avg	\$10,128	\$3,293	\$6,793	

APPENDIX B

2019 MNPS Spring Meeting Small Grants Report

Presented to Board of Directors on March 2, 2019.

2019 Grant proposals:

We received 12 small grant proposals by the 1/31/19 deadline.

- 5 gardens or restoration, all with an education component
- 6 research
- 1 symposium / education

The committee recommends funding a total of \$4500 for the following three proposals, in highest ranking order:

Outdoor Education Center and Demonstration Garden

Hailey Graff, Flathead Conservation District

\$1500 for native plants

Abstract:

The Outdoor Education Center and Demonstration Garden will address a growing need to educate the local community on the benefits and importance of native plants. The population and development of Flathead County is rapidly expanding (2nd fastest rate in Montana) with much of the increase due to an influx of out of state residents. The Flathead Conservation District has the opportunity to create an Outdoor Education Center and Demonstration Garden, focusing on teaching conservation practices to the growing local community.

Plant diversity in bedrock meadows of north-western Montana

Viktoria Wagner, Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta

\$1500 for travel expenses and collection supplies

Abstract:

Although globally renowned for its forests, the Interior Pacific Northwest is also home to natural meadows that occur interspersed in its mid-elevational zone. This habitat type occurs on shallow and periodically seepy soils over dense bedrock, in mountain ranges from north-western Montana to north-eastern Washington, and displays a rich native flora, including rare annual, bulbous, and tap rooted plants. In contrast to their forest counterpart, these meadows have never been described in the scientific literature and hence, overlooked in science, environmental decision-making processes, and education. Research in my lab aims to explore the plant diversity and species composition of this habitat type. The requested funds will support my lab's field research in north-western Montana, in summer 2019, and in the long-term, help us to increase awareness of this unique habitat type.

Yaak Valley weed control, revegetation, and monitoring; AND huckleberry shrub monitoring after timber harvest.

Robyn King, Exec. Director, Yaak Valley Forest Council

\$1500 for field work travel, "non-toxic" herbicides, field supplies, and "wildflower seed"

Abstract:

The Yaak Valley Forest Council (YVFC) Headwaters program partner with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in long-term efforts to promote re-vegetation of native plants through weed abatement in the Yaak watershed. Our projects are implemented by annual fieldwork including hand pulling, non-toxic weed spraying, and installations on weed mat to discourage growth of invasive species such as hawkweed, oxeye daisy, Canada thistle, knapweed, reed canary grass, and St. John's wort. Native plant re-vegetation is encouraged by weed abatement and re-planting with native grasses. We also partner with the USFS on our Terrestrial Habitat Restoration Initiative for Vegetative Enhancement (T.H.R.I.V.E.) long-term huckleberry shrub monitoring project to promote post-timber harvest huckleberry restoration.

S. G. Committee's note: If this grant is awarded, it will be with a stipulation that the "wildflower seed mix" must be species native to western MT, or remove that item (\$248) from funding.

2018 update:

We awarded 1 grant in 2018: **Does cultivation of MT wildflower species on native seed farms cause unintended evolution?**

Dr. Julie Etterson: Prof. Dept. Biology, U of MN Duluth., Dr. Erin Espeland: Ecologist, ARS USDA, Sidney, MT. Sophia Green: Undergrad Biology, U of MN Duluth.

\$1500 for a seed collection trip to Missoula, MT.

In July 2018, we sent the 1st installment of \$750. The collection trip did not happen and there are other changes to the project (personnel, scheduling, seed sourcing). The greenhouse research is ongoing with some interesting preliminary results that suggest there is a difference in seed farm vs wild plants. They asked for continued use of our funds for other aspects of the project. However, Betty concluded these changes aren't consistent with the original grant and requested they return the \$750.

Budget implications:

2019 Budget includes \$4500 for new grants and \$750 for the final installment of the 2018 grant.

If 3 grants are approved, request is \$4500 minus \$750 return of 2018 payment = **\$3750**.

If 2 grants are approved, request is \$3000 minus \$750 return of 2018 payment = \$2250.

Decision:

Prepared by Betty Kuropat, Small Grants committee chair, 2/26/2019

APPENDIX C

Suggestions for Increasing Younger Membership

Compiled by Ryan Quire

1/25/2019

Peter Lesica kindly created an ad hoc committee composed of younger members, at the 2018 annual meeting. The group included the following members:

Ryan Quire (VOF)
Teagan Hayse (Clark Fork)

Jess Brewer (Clark Fork)
Jordan Morey (VOF)
Chantelle DeLay (Flathead)
Justina Dumont (Kelsey)
Andrew and Dixie Sullivan (East at Large)

I sent out emails to these folks requesting their feedback on narrowing down the list of ideas and suggestions, developed at the 2018 annual meeting, into a more feasible list of action items the MNPS should consider. I unfortunately only received responses from three people.

Dixie and Andrew were happy with the effort I was putting forth but didn't have the time to participate more than attending the annual meeting and an occasional talk in the winter/hike in the summer. They were also open to setting up a booth for the MNPS at a few community events in Lewistown (e.g., chokecherry festival) to get new members to sign-up or see if they'd be interested in leading a plant walk for the MNPS.

Jess Brewer provided some excellent feedback. The following are responses from mostly Jess and myself (with a little help from others), to the ideas developed at the 2018 annual meeting. In general, from personal communication with some other young people and my own work/personal schedule, I think many young people are often maxed out and don't have the time to devote to playing an active role in a volunteer organization.

1. Circulate among the chapters a template for a native-plant trivia night at breweries.
In general, gatherings at breweries are a good idea for cultivating younger members.
 - Trivia is one optional activity; you could also display info on membership, chapter activities, and scheduled field trips.
 - Have a meeting at a brewery to plan field trips; this would be more interactive amongst members rather than one or 2 people planning and publishing a schedule.
2. Engage a university marketing intern for one semester to mount an Instagram page, design a sticker, and create other cool marketing materials.
 - Having an active, coordinated Instagram/ Facebook/social media plan and a general marketing plan for the society are definitely something that would boost the society's visibility across all age groups, and something MNPS should pursue. This is too important to assign to one intern for just one semester, though that could provide a starting point. Who will maintain the Instagram page once that intern leaves? It will take an ongoing committed effort by the society to be effective. (Maybe we need a marketing committee?) As for stickers, we have a logo and it would little effort to order stickers with that on it.
3. Start clubs at the universities – “there will be pizza!”
 - Student chapters would be a great “feeder system” to procure people who would remain members once they leave college. Who would lead the initial effort though?
4. Do more with kids, including in schools, at summer camps and workshops.
 - Many potential “younger members” have children and this would be a good draw for them. Who will lead this effort?
5. Have a presence at county fairs.
 - Farmers Markets or other community events would be a great venue. The one in Hamilton does not charge a fee for non-profits.

6. Make hikes more kid/dog friendly for younger people who have pets and families that they don't want to leave on weekends.
 - Young people work during the week and want to spend time with their beloved pets and/or children during their weekend activities.
7. Does MNPS meet any needs for you – for socializing, learning plants, working for conservation, becoming acquainted with new ecosystems, bolstering your professional network, or anything else? Specifically how could it do a better job of any of these?
 - For most young people, their involvement has only included attending the annual meeting, and the occasional hike/talk, which they do value for socializing, learning new plants, and visiting new parts of the state.
 - We appreciate the fact that MNPS does advocate for plant conservation (which few other organizations do) and is one of the reasons young people maintain their membership.
8. What other ideas do you have for making the organization appealing & worthwhile to young people?
 - Our typical scheduled activities are largely the same from year to year. Anything to create some variety in types of activities or scheduling of activities, even in meeting places could help. Can chapters come up with anything new? Specifically consider if scheduling is convenient for working people.
9. Are meetings (presentations etc.) and field trips less appealing ways to socialize?
 - Most young people don't attend regular chapter meetings because they have long driving distances or other obligations and it's in the middle of the work week.
 - Hands on/fun activities like our trivia/brewery/herbarium nights are more tempting.
10. What sort of activism would inspire younger people to get involved?
 - Promoting habitat and species preservation.

APPENDIX D

Calypso Chapter Report Montana Native Plants Society Board Meeting March 2, 2019

Calypso Chapter held its final meeting of 2018 with the Annual Pot Luck and Planning meeting on December 2, 2018 at the home of Kriss and Rick Douglas. At that meeting we planned our events for the 2019 season. We also were delighted to have Bob and Toni Person and Pat and Mary Plantenberg of Kelsea Chapter to talk about the plans for the society's 2019 Annual Meeting in the Cypress Hills. There was a lot of interest from chapter members.

Our first planned event for 2019 will be **Tuesday March 5th**, in the evening, when Mike Garverich will present a slideshow of colorful native flora – a much-needed mid-winter boost in our winter-white world.

Also this spring will be our 9th annual favorite the “Gardening with Native Plants” Workshop held in Divide on **Saturday, March 30th**. Speakers include Charissa Wagner of Intermountain Roofscapes (Whitehall), speaking on “Green Roofs for the Mountain States”, and Peter Lesica, author of Manual of Montana Vascular Plants, speaking on “Plant Geography of Montana.”

There will be a great selection of native plants and vegetable and flower seeds for purchase, and gardening books for sale. From 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the Grange Hall in Divide, MT. Bring a sack lunch and water. All are welcome! Registration and information are available at 406-498-6198, nativeplants@montana.com.

Below are the remaining Calypso Chapter events for 2019:

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Chapter Native Garden in Dillon. Help monitor the Chapter's native garden in the median strip on Helena Avenue in Dillon (left turn at the first light on Montana Street, coming from the north) will continue throughout the summer, beginning on May 5th at 10:00 AM. Bring gloves and a digging tool, and lend a couple of hours to weeding out old non-native perennials and encouraging the native plantings in their fifth year. For more information, contact Catherine Cain at 406-498-6198; nativeplants@montana.com.

June 21-23, 2019

Montana Native Plant Society Annual Meeting hosted by the Kelsey Chapter in the Sweetgrass Hills of southern Saskatchewan. Members and non-members welcome. For details of the meeting and tips on traveling to Canada contact Karen Porter (406-494-0606; karenwporter44@gmail.com).

Sunday, October, Date to be Announced

"Dyeing with Native Plants" will be an opportunity to use native plant materials to dye yarns and fabrics. Several native dyes will be free and available at the event. Participants are also encouraged to bring in their own dye concoctions. A limited number of silk scarves will be available for purchase at the event. Come spend a morning at this season-ending Chapter event presented by Jessie Salix, Beaverhead-Deerlodge Forest Botanist. For meeting time and place, contact Jessie at 406-683-3749.

Sunday, December 1, 2018

Calypso Chapter Annual Meeting and Pot Luck. Come share a meal and enjoy the warmth of the season as we plan the Chapter events for 2020. Time and place to be announced

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Cain and Karen Porter
Calypso Chapter

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