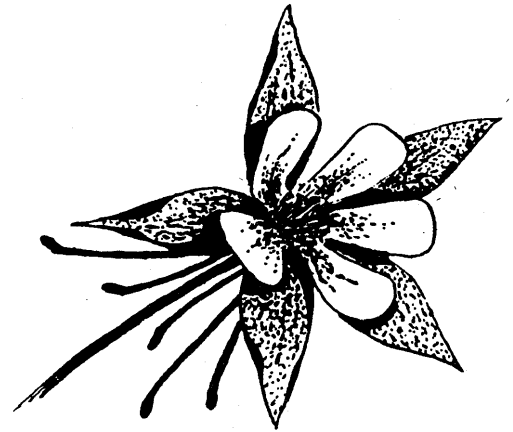


Aquilegia



Newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society

"... dedicated to the appreciation and conservation of the Colorado native flora"

Volume 18 Number 5

September — December 1994

The Colorado Native Plant Society Announces Mountain Peat Conservation Campaign

At its November 5th meeting, The Colorado Native Plant Society (CONPS) Board of Directors endorsed aggressive educational program on the effects of peat mining on mountain wetlands in Colorado. These unusual wetland ecosystems were created at the end of the last Ice Age about 11,000 years ago; they cannot be restored once they are lost. Many plant species found in high

mountain fens occur nowhere else in Colorado; several are known to be rare or endangered. Examples include the Greenland primrose (*Primula egaliksensis*), the hoary willow (*Salix candida*), and pale blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium pallidum*). Fens also provide significant water quality and flood retention benefits. A few high mountain fens are protected from mining or water withdrawals by The Nature Conservancy and other organizations. Most are still vulnerable to these threats.

CONPS has promoted protection of Colorado's mountain fens and the plant diversity they contain through educational and regulatory strategies. Beginning in 1995, CONPS will work with other environmental and governmental organizations to publicize alternatives to

mountain peat as a horticultural product, to promote suppliers who convert to alternative products, and to develop educational materials for distribution to individuals, the nursery and landscaping industry, and other users of horticultural products. These educational efforts will focus on the adverse impacts of peat mining on mountain wetlands, while providing suggestions for alternative horticultural products.

The Society needs your help to accomplish these goals. Do not buy products containing mountain peat and tell suppliers why. If you would like more information, or if you or your organization wish to become involved in this project, call Ken Ball (303) 697-8443, Jim Borland (303) 922-4716, Sally White (303) 697-5439, or Janet Coles (303) 866-3203 ext. 330.



Primula parryi
Artist: Francis Ramaley ?



Contents

Membership Information	2	Rocky Mountain Arsenal	
Dues Reminder	2	Field Trip Report	7
Announcements	3	Chapter Activities	9-10
Opportunities for		Discount Publications	11
Involvement	4-5	Calendar	12
Field Trip Lists	6		

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Once again, it's reminder time. Have you paid your CONPS dues? Dues notices were sent out in November. Please remember that dues cover a calendar year, except new members who join in the second half of the year are credited through the following year. The mailing label on your newsletter shows the year THROUGH which you are paid—i.e., PAID THRU 94 means you should remit your dues for 1995!! If you have sent your payment within the past few weeks, the label could be incorrect due to the length of time required for newsletter production.

Membership Committee Chair Myrna Steinkamp also notes that the post office will not forward bulk mail, so if you move and want to continue to receive CONPS mailings, it is essential that you notify the Society (P.O. Box 200, Fort Collins CO 80522-0200).

As you complete your membership renewal form...

Remember that the post office will soon require us to use 9-digit ZIP codes. Please help us by providing your complete, 9-digit ZIP code on your renewal form. If you do not know your 4-digit suffix, check some of your junk mail, contact your local post office, or ask your mail carrier. Thanks!



Colorado Native Plant Society



The Colorado Native Plant Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the appreciation and conservation of the Colorado native flora. Membership is open to all with an interest in our native plants, and is composed of plant enthusiasts both professional and non-professional.

Please join us in helping to encourage interest in enjoying and protecting Colorado's native plants. The Society sponsors field trips, workshops and other activities through local chapters and statewide. Contact the Society, a chapter representative, or committee chair for more information.

Schedule of Membership Fees

Life	\$250
Supporting	\$ 50
Organization	\$ 30
Family or Dual	\$ 15
Individual	\$ 12
Student or Senior	\$ 8

Membership Renewal/Information

Please direct all membership applications, renewals and address changes to the Membership Chairperson, Colorado Native Plant Society, P.O. Box 200, Fort Collins, CO 80522. Please direct all other inquiries regarding the Society to the Secretary at the same address.



Aquilegia is published four to six times per year by the Colorado Native Plant Society. This newsletter is available to members of the Society and to others with an interest in native plants. Contact the Society for subscription information.

Articles from *Aquilegia* may be used by other native plant societies or non-profit groups if fully cited to author and attributed to *Aquilegia*.

Newsletter Contributions

Please direct all contributions to the newsletter to:

Nina Williams
976 Cherryvale Road
Boulder, CO 80303

Short items such as unusual information about a plant, a little known botanical term, etc. are especially welcome. Camera-ready line art or other illustrations are also solicited.

Please include author's name and address, although items will be printed anonymously if requested. Articles submitted on disks (IBM or Mac) are appreciated. Please indicate word processing software and version.



Officers

President	Tom Ranker	492-5074
Vice-President	Chris Pague	491-1309
Secretary	Mark Gershman	443-9365
Treasurer	Carol Scheid	493-1367

Board of Directors

Ann Armstrong (95)	Boulder	494-0545
David Buckner (95)	Boulder	494-3231
Kathy Carsey (96)	Boulder	449-3041
Janet Coles (95)	Boulder	440-0595
Mark Gershman (96)	Boulder	443-9365
Andrew Kratz (95)	Lakewood	238-6317
Tamara Naumann (95) ..	Arvada	441-4142
Chris Pague (96)	Lyons	492-4719
Tom Ranker (96)	Boulder	492-5074
Carol Spurrier (96)	Lakewood	274-6905

Chapter Presidents

Boulder	Lynn Riedel	666-6687
Metro-Denver	Jeff Dawson	722-6758
Fort Collins	Mike Scott	490-1788
Yamparika	Reed Kelley	878-4666
San Juan	Gretchen	
	Van Reyper	835-3268
Southwest	Sandy Friedley	884-9245
	or	Leslie Stewart
		882-7241

Committees

Conservation	Janet Coles	440-0595
	and	Kathy Carsey
		449-3041
Editorial	Nina Williams	499-9858
	and	Tamara Naumann ..
		441-4142
	and	William A. Weber ..
		492-6171
Education	Andrew Kratz	238-6317
Field Trips	Rick Brune	238-5078
	and	Jeff Dawson
		722-6758
Field Studies	Mary Edwards	233-8133
Hort/Restoration ...	Tina Jones	794-2647
	and	Ann Armstrong
		494-0545
Legislative Affairs .	VACANT	
Membership	Myrna Steinkamp ..	226-3371
	and	Sue Martin
		226-3371
Publicity	VACANT	
Workshops	VACANT	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STRUGGLING WITH GRASS ID ?

Two new publications by Jan Wingate might be just what you are looking for! Contact Velma Richards (see *For Your Library* on page 10 of this issue) for availability. These new publications can be ordered along with any others listed on page 11.

Illustrated Keys to the Grasses of Colorado is available for \$ 7.50 plus tax and \$ 1.00 for postage and handling.

Simplified Guide to Common Colorado Grasses, A is available for \$ 3.00 plus tax and \$ 1.00 postage and handling.

Happy grass hunting!

COLORADO WEED MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

The Colorado Weed Management Association (CWMA) was organized to educate anyone interested in weed management in Colorado. Through its efforts, CWMA encourages proper use of integrated weed management practices and fosters cooperation between intrastate agencies and neighboring states. The Association works to support university programs in applied research and extension to address major weed problems in Colorado. Membership information can be obtained by writing to: CWMA, 2305 Nottingham Court, Fort Collins CO 80526, or by calling: (303) 229-0352.

COLORADO NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM MOVES TO FORT COLLINS

The Colorado Natural Heritage Program has a new home! After years of cramped quarters and occasional evictions, CNHP has been welcomed to new and more spacious digs at Colorado State University. You can reach them for information requests at:

(303) 491-2844

and for other business at:

Colorado Natural Heritage Program
103 Natural Resources Building
Colorado State University
Fort Collins CO 80523
(303) 491-1309

Aquilegia

is printed on 100% recycled paper

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

Two important Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) are available for review:

Bureau of Land Management
White River Resource Area

P.O. Box 928

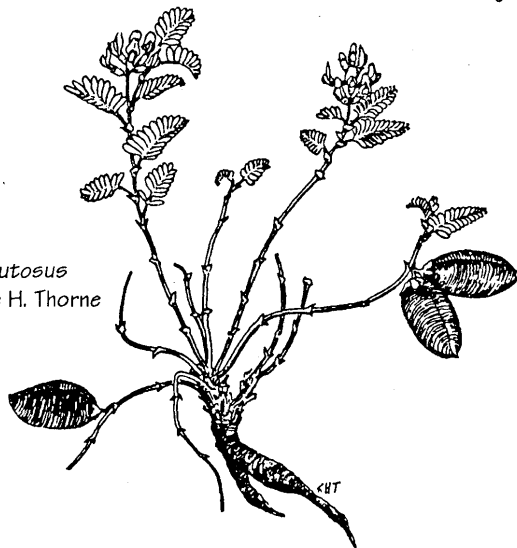
Meeker CO 81641

Comment period closes: February 10, 1995

U.S. Forest Service (Comanche National Grassland)
Picketwire Area

Call: (719) 523-9998 to get on the mailing list to receive a copy of the EIS when it becomes available.

Astragalus lutosus
Artist: Kaye H. Thorne



Aquilegia barnebyi
Artist: Kaye H. Thorne



Both of these areas contain well-preserved examples of native plant communities. The White River Resource Area provides habitat for a significant number of rare native plants that are endemic to oil shale country. Let your federal land management agencies know that our native flora has an active and vocal constituency!

Contact a member of the Conservation Committee for more information on these areas.

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT COLORADO'S NATIVE FLORA ? LOOKING FOR WAYS TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH PRESERVATION ? WHY NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN ONE OF CONPS' MANY COMMITTEES?

The Committee Chairs and Chapter Presidents welcome interested members who wish to become more active in the Society. The functions of various CONPS committees are briefly described below. For more detailed information, contact the appropriate committee chair at the telephone numbers listed in the masthead found on page 2.

FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE

Chair: Jeff Dawson and Rick Brune

Each year, the Society offers its members many opportunities to visit interesting areas with unique or representative flora—often with the guidance of a local botanical expert. Committee members:

- Arrange, schedule, publicize, and organize field trips throughout Colorado.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Janet Coles and Kathy Carsey

Members of the Conservation Committee have worked with local, state, and federal agencies to bring about policies and actions consistent with the Society's goals. Committee activities include:

- Advocacy for the conservation of rare plants, plant communities, and natural diversity by local, state and federal agencies.
- Assistance in information exchange among agencies and with members of the public about the status of Colorado's flora.
- Preparation of the Society's position papers of various environmental impact and development review proposals.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Andy Kratz

The Society has produced several travelling displays and slide presentations, and has cooperated in the production of several brochures, all aimed at getting the word out about the value of our native flora. Education Committee projects might involve:

- Sharing information with members, public agencies and the general public about Colorado native plants and landscapes.
- Creating brochures, public presentations, displays and other products to encourage the appreciation and conservation of native plants.
- Developing a speaker list or initiating other forms of outreach.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Chair: Nina Williams and Tamara Naumann

The Society's newsletter, *Aquilegia* (named for Colorado's state flower—the Colorado columbine), is produced four to six times each year. This means writing, soliciting articles and artwork, editing, working on layout, trips to the printer, and addressing and mailing approximately 600 issues. There are many opportunities for assisting the Editorial Committee. This committee has also worked in the past to produce technical and education bulletins for members of the Society and the general public.

FIELD STUDIES COMMITTEE

Chair: Mary Edwards

Members of this committee have worked hard at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, Golden Gate Canyon State Park and other locales developing plant inventories and establishing herbaria. Committee members may:

- Undertake projects for natural resource agencies in need of better information about the vegetation on the lands they manage.
- Maintain lists of plants observed on Society field trips and make those lists available to interested individuals.

WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

Chair: VACANT (contact Mark Gershman for information)

The Workshop Committee is dormant this year; perhaps you would enjoy reviving it. The Society's workshop calendar normally begins in the late fall, bringing opportunities for members to brush up on, or learn anew various plant identification skills. Past topics have ranged from grass identification workshops, to an introductory bryology class. It takes work to find workshop leaders, find meeting spaces, and process the registration materials of workshop participants. Committee objectives include:

- Providing education in all aspects of the Colorado flora during the winter, when field trips are impractical.
- Presentation of the latest botanical research from experts in the field.
- Publication of keys and other materials to interested Society members.
- Presentation of specialized botanical training not available elsewhere.

continued—next page

HORTICULTURE & RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Tina Jones and Ann Armstrong

Many Society members and other Colorado residents would like to incorporate native plants into their home or commercial landscaping. Doing so in a manner respectful of natural processes is not always intuitive or easy. The Horticulture & Restoration Committee has been active in:

- Developing guidelines for the collection and use of native plants.
- Establishing open lines of communication with nurseries, seed suppliers, landscape architects, garden clubs, etc.
- Helping local, state and federal agencies select appropriate native plants for landscaping and reclamation projects.
- Compiling information regarding appropriate regulations and policies relevant to native plant use.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Chair: VACANT (contact Mark Gershman for information)

This committee has long been inactive. If you are interested in working to help publicize the achievements and activities of the Society, think about working to reactivate the publicity committee.

If there are other ways you think you could help meet the Society's goals, feel free to contact any Board member with suggestions for new committees, or new projects for existing committees. Remember, you will be asked to participate. If you would prefer to become active at the chapter level, contact the Chapter President with your ideas and suggestions; offer to assist in chapter projects and functions.



COLORADO WEED MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION FORMS A HORTICULTURAL WEED COMMITTEE

The Colorado Weed Management Association (CWMA) recently formed a committee to address problems associated with invasive horticultural weeds. This is a topic of interest to many Colorado Native Plant Society members. The CWMA Annual Conference and Trade show was held in December in Estes Park, and featured several talks in which horticultural weeds were discussed. If you would like to get involved, or if you just want more information, contact Cindy Owsley (303-441-4559) or Ron Jepson (303-659-4150). See page 3 of this issue for CWMA membership information.

CONPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

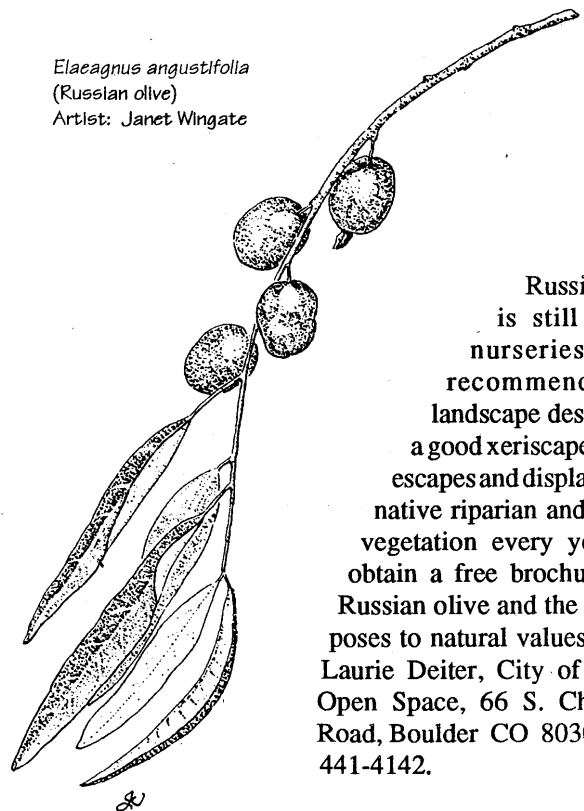
Members of the Society are always welcome at meetings of the Board of Directors. Meetings are held in alternating months on Saturday afternoons at 1:00 pm. See the list below for dates and locations. A typical meeting agenda follows:

- Roll call**
- Approval of minutes from previous Board meeting**
- Announcements** (items of general interest to the Society that do not require formal action by the Board)
- Old Business** (follow up on items introduced at past meetings which may require action by the Board)
- New Business** (items which require discussion, action, or decision by the Board)
- Chapter President Reports**
- Committee Chair Reports**
- Adjournment** (often with refreshments)

If you have an item for the agenda, please contact Tom Ranker. If there are materials you would like Board members to receive, contact Mark Gershman.

DATE	LOCATION
January 7, 1995	Boulder Open Space Operations Center 66 S. Cherryvale Road, Boulder
March 4, 1995	Boulder Open Space Operations Center
April 22, 1995	To Be Announced
September 9, 1995	To Be Announced

Elaeagnus angustifolia
(Russian olive)
Artist: Janet Wingate



Russian olive is still sold in nurseries and recommended by landscape designers as a good xeriscape plant. It escapes and displaces more native riparian and wetland vegetation every year. To obtain a free brochure about Russian olive and the threats it poses to natural values, contact Laurie Deiter, City of Boulder Open Space, 66 S. Cherryvale Road, Boulder CO 80303, (303) 441-4142.

Calling All 1994 Field Trip Lists!

In spite of the dry summer season, many of our native plants bloomed and were observed by enthusiastic CONPS field trip participants. Unfortunately, there is a drought of new trip lists for the 1994 season. Only four of eight have been submitted. This is a plea for lists in any form by any trip participants to be sent to Loraine Yeatts for compilation and addition to the following available CONPS field trip plant lists.

Chamerion sp.

Artist: Francis Ramaley



COLORADO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY FIELD TRIP LISTS

Trip Name	Date	Leader(s)	Number of Pages By Family/ Genus	
Aiken Canyon	6/6/1992		5	4
Billy Pardee Ranch	6/6/1990	Rick Rhoades SCS	1	1
Butler Ranch	6/6/1990	Rick Rhoades SCS	3	2
Cedar Mesa & Vicinity	5/15/1991	Rick Brune, Loraine Yeatts	5	4
Conejos River Basin	6/20/1992	Patsy Douglas	5	4
Devil's Head	8/5/1989	Judy Von Ahlefeldt	1	1
Dinosaur National Monument	5/1/1993	Lynne Riedel	4	3
East Carrizo Creek	5/21/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	1	1
East Cottonwood Creek	5/21/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	1	1
Florrisant Fossil Beds	6/27/1987	Mary Edwards	4	3
Fort Carson: The Hogback	5/20/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	2	1
High Creek Fen	7/11/1992	Alan Carpenter	2	2
Hoosier Ridge	7/17/1994	Robin Bingham	4	3
Horseshoe Cirque	7/12/1992	Barbara Siems	4	3
I-25 Rest Area near Pueblo	5/19/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	2	1
Kim Area	5/21/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	1	1
Los Lagos Ranch, Rollinsville	7/23/1994	Betsy Baldwin	3	2
Mesa de Maya	8/22/1987	Ivo Lindauer	5	4
Middle Park	6/18/1989	John Anderson	2	1
Moffat County	5/28/1987	Steve O'Kane	3	3
Mt. Evans	8/29/1993	Betty Willard	3	2
North Table Mt.	5/14/1994	Sally White, Loraine Yeatts	5	4
Pawnee National Grassland	5/29/1987	Rick Brune	4	3
Pawnee National Grassland	6/5/1993	Jim Borland, Rick Brune	6	5
Perly Canyon	5/20/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	2	2
Phantom Canyon	6/10/1989	Alan Carpenter	4	3
Piñon Canyon	5/25/1983	Tom Eamons	1	1
Poudre Canyon - Laramie River	6/30/1990		4	3
Pueblo West	7/8/1988	Jim Borland	3	2
Rampart Range	6/28/1987	Dave Powell, Neal Osbourne	3	2
Rampart Range	6/25/1988	Frank Hawksworth	3	2
Rattlesnake Canyon	5/28/1994	Walt Kelley	3	2
Sewemup Mesa	5/29/1994	Walt Kelley	2	2
Taylor Arroyo	5/20/1989	Rick Brune, Meg Van Ness	2	2
Unaweep Canyon	8/10/1991	Scott Ellis	2	2

To Place An Order:

For each field trip list desired indicate:

1. trip name and date
2. preferred list format (alphabetical by family or by genus or one of each)
4. total number of pages for all lists requested.

Calculate charges based on the rate of \$.20 per page with a minimum of \$.50 if ordering fewer than three pages. Enclose a check made payable to Loraine Yeatts for the total amount of your order and mail both to:

Loraine Yeatts
1395 Nile Street
Golden, CO 80401

For further information see *Aquilegia* Volume 18, Number 2, page 10.

Chamaepericlymenum canadense=

Cornus canadensis

Artist: O. V. Kirkton



FIELD TRIP REPORT

The Rocky Mountain Arsenal From Environmental Contamination to Future National Wildlife Refuge

Report by Catherine A. Lee

On June 12th 1994, Carl Mackey of MK-Environmental Services led CONPS members on a tour of habitat improvement projects at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA). The Arsenal is 10 miles northeast of downtown Denver and encompasses 27 square miles. Once native prairie, the land was eventually plowed for farming and also utilized for grazing cattle. The Arsenal was established in 1942 during World War II. The U.S. Army manufactured chemical weapons at the site until the early 1960s. In the early 1980s the site was used for weapons destruction. In addition, Arsenal facilities were leased to private industry, including Shell Oil. Shell produced herbicides and pesticides on site until 1982.

Contamination of the RMA occurred during disposal of military and industrial wastes. Disposal methods included burial of toxic wastes and the use of evaporative basins to contain liquid wastes. Chemical contamination affected soils, water, plants, and animals. The Arsenal is now an active Superfund site. Due to its size and large areas of relative inactivity, it is also host to a large number of wildlife species and has been a National Wildlife Area since 1992. Once cleanup is complete the area will become a National Wildlife Refuge. Many projects have been completed and more are underway to address the contamination problems. Five groups are involved in the cleanup process, including the U.S. Army, Environmental Protection Agency, Colorado Department of Health, Shell Oil Company, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

We were able to visit some of the grassland restoration projects that are part of the cleanup effort. The goal of these projects is to increase the diversity of habitat types, including sandhills, mixed grass, shortgrass, and tallgrass prairie. A first step in prairie restoration is to look at undisturbed areas and use them as a reference in directing revegetation efforts. Therefore, our first stop on the tour was a remnant sandhills

prairie site. We identified sand bluestem (*Andropogon hallii*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*=*Chondrosium gracile*), prairie sandreed (*Calamovilfa longifolia*), sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), prickly pear (*Opuntia polyacantha*), and spiderwort (*Tradescantia occidentalis*).

mixture included sand bluestem, prairie sandreed, switchgrass, blue grama, sand sagebrush (*Artemisia filifolia*=*Oligosporus filifolius*), and western wheatgrass. The shortgrass prairie mixture included blue grama, buffalograss (*Buchloë dactyloides*) and western wheatgrass. Tallgrass prairie restoration was underway near First Creek, where deeper soils and increased runoff from adjacent slopes provided a higher water table. Species seeded here include big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), green needlegrass, switchgrass, and sideoats grama.

In localized areas on the Arsenal, ring muhly (*Muhlenbergia torreyii*) and sandberg bluegrass (*Poa secunda*=*P. sandbergii*) are present. Carl noted that prairie junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*) was conspicuously absent. Other natives on the Arsenal include yucca, rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*), winterfat (*Ceratoides*=*Krascheninnikovia lanata*), and scarlet globemallow (*Sphaeralcea coccinea*).

Revegetated areas had large components of annual mustards, and cheatgrass (*Bromus*=*Anisantha tectorum*) was an overwhelming (and unwanted) volunteer. Although the sites were seeded to native species, the exotics comprised much of the pre-existing vegetation and seedbank. Irrigation was not used on revegetated sites. A variety of weed control measures were considered, but a number of factors led managers to choose mowing as the most appropriate method.

Finally, we visited a needlegrass site to be used as a seed source for future restoration projects. In August, Canada wild rye (*Elymus canadensis*) seed will be collected and grown to establish a local seed source for this species.

Those wishing to learn more about the Arsenal may call the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (303) 289-0232 for information about tours and programs.

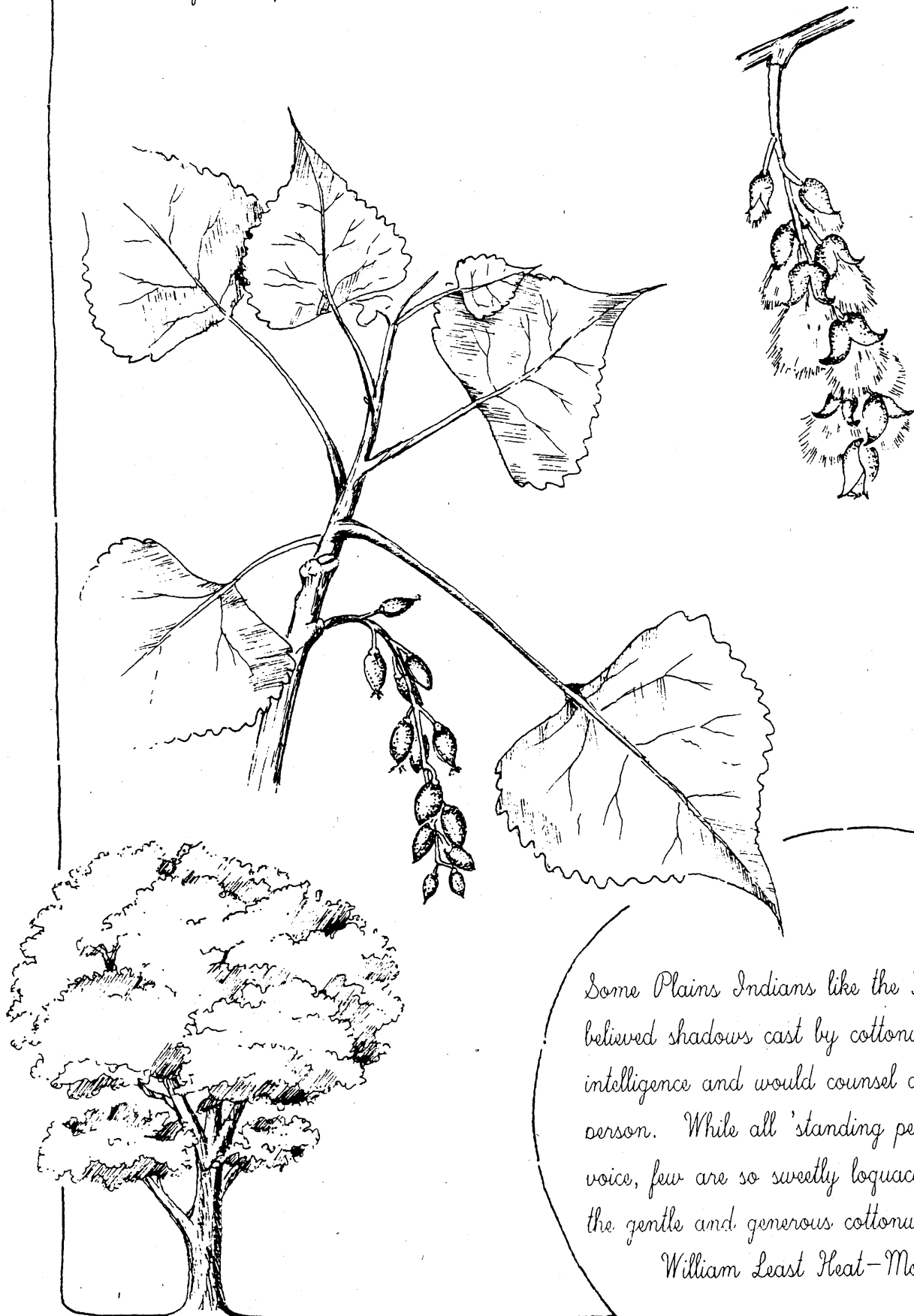


Buchloë dactyloides ♂
Artist: Francis Ramaley?

We spent the rest of the morning looking at revegetated areas. On the mixed grass sites the seed mixture included green needlegrass (*Stipa viridula*), needle-and-thread (*Stipa comata*), slender wheatgrass (*Agropyron trachycaulum*=*Elymus trachycaulus*), and western wheatgrass (*Agropyron*=*Pascopyrum smithii*). The sandhills prairie



Artist: Gary Bentrup



Some Plains Indians like the Hidatsa, believed shadows cast by cottonwoods possessed intelligence and would counsel a troubled person. While all 'standing people' have voice, few are so sweetly loquacious as the gentle and generous cottonwood.

William Least Heat-Moon

CHAPTER NEWS

Boulder Chapter

January 10: The Galapagos International Scientific Program (GSIP), 1964

The GSIP, a motley collection of scientists of all natural history disciplines, sailed to the Galapagos Islands in 1964 to dedicate a research station, and on to Guayaquil, Ecuador, for a symposium to interest the Ecuadoran people in establishing a National Park. This is the story of that expedition, which opened the islands to world tourism and emigration from Ecuador, saved much of the flora and fauna, and introduced problems common to other sanctuaries today. Join Dr. William Weber, Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado, for this exciting program.

February 14: The Natural History of the Southern Rockies

Audrey Benedict, founder of *Cloud Ridge Naturalists* and author of *A Sierra Club Naturalist's Guide to the Southern Rockies*, will share her knowledge and inspiring photography of the Southern Rocky Mountains.

March 14: Tallgrass Prairie in the Boulder Area: Unique Features and Prospects for Sustainability

Dr. Tim Seastedt, Biology professor with the University of Colorado and Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, will present a program on Boulder's tallgrass prairie. He will compare local tallgrass prairie with the mid-western prairies he studied during his tenure as Director of Research at Konza Prairie. Join us for an insightful look at this important source of regional biodiversity—a unique ecosystem facing an uncertain future.

April 11: Habitat Fragmentation: Insect Responses In Mixed-Grass Prairie

Sharon Collinge is a landscape architecture graduate student at Harvard University. Her research on the effects of habitat fragmentation on mixed-grass prairie insect communities on Boulder Open Space is the topic of this program. Learn how this local research project will illuminate fragmentation and the threat it poses to grassland biodiversity.

May 9: Spring Hike

To be announced. Please suggest a favorite location near Boulder for enjoying the spring bloom.

Monthly meetings are held from September through April on the **2nd Tuesday** of the month at **7:30 p.m.** at the **Foothills Nature Center, 4201 North Broadway**, unless otherwise noted. For more information call Lynn Riedel (666-6687) or Elaine Hill (494-7873). Check the *Daily Camera* or the *Colorado Daily* for changes. Bring a friend!

Fort Collins Chapter

January 10: Plants and Their Habitats

TENTATIVE. Peter Heartlove is a physician and an award-winning amateur photographer. He will present a show of some of his favorite plant and habitat photographs.

February 7: Embryos Inside Leaves? (*Mimulus gemmiparus*)

Mark Beardsley is a graduate student in the Department of Biology at Colorado State University. He will discuss his research on *Mimulus gemmiparus*, a federal Category 2 plant species (a candidate for listing as threatened or endangered). In particular, Mark will describe the very unusual mode of vegetative reproduction exhibited by this unique rare plant.

March 7: Fire Ecology of the Major Forest Types of the Central Rockies

Dr. Rick Laven, professor of Forestry at Colorado State University, will discuss his work in Colorado forest ecology.

April 4: Old Growth Forests of the Medicine Bow National Forest

Judy von Ahlefeldt is an ecologist with the U.S. Forest Service in Laramie, Wyoming. Her recent work has focused on landscape and biodiversity issues on Forest Service lands.

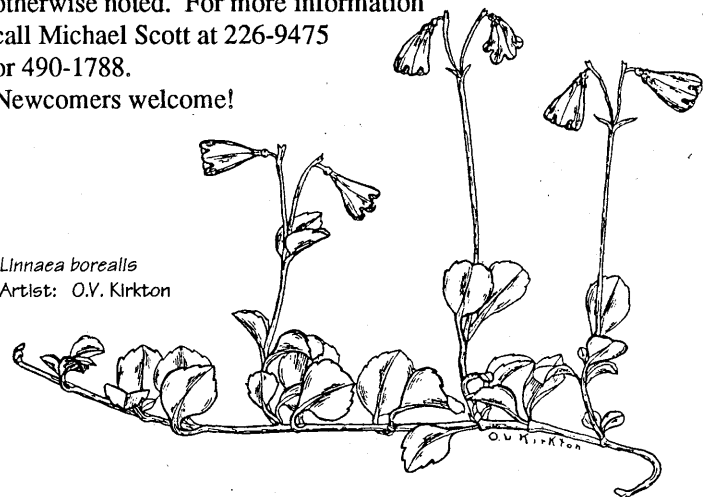
May 2: For "Peat's" Sake—Grow Your Petunias With Something Else!

Jim Borland is a writer and horticulturalist. He has a special interest in Colorado peatlands and their use as a source for commercial peat. Learn what you can do to protect Colorado's precious wetland plant communities.

Monthly meetings are held at **7:00 p.m.** in the Large Conference Room at the **Headquarters for the Rocky Mountain Station/ Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest, 240 West Prospect**, unless otherwise noted. For more information call Michael Scott at 226-9475 or 490-1788.

Newcomers welcome!

Linnaea borealis
Artist: O.V. Kirkton



CHAPTER NEWS

FOR YOUR LIBRARY →

Metro-Denver Chapter**January 25: DOUBLE BILLING:****Rocky Horror Horticultural
(Weed) Show**

with CONPS member, Bobbi Henig, and
Microscope Workshop
with Richard Kline, local microscope dealer.
Classroom A, DBG.

**February 22: Parry, Hall and Harbour
—Collectors in Colorado in 1862**

Join Dr. William Weber, Curator Emeritus,
University of Colorado Herbarium, for this
historical look at Colorado's early botanical
explorers. Morrison Center, DBG.

March 22: To Be Announced

Dr. Yan Linhart is a biology professor at the
University of Colorado. He will present a
program on a topic yet-to-be-announced
from his eclectic research interests.
Morrison Center, DBG.

April 26: Plant-Insect Interactions

Dr. Deane Bowers, Curator of Entomology
at the University of Colorado, will discuss
her research on plant-insect interactions.
Classroom A, DBG.

Monthly meetings are held from September
through May on the **4th Wednesday** of the
month at **7:30 p.m.** at the Denver Botanic
Garden (DBG) **Morrison Center or
Classroom A, 909 York Street**, unless
otherwise noted. For more information,
call Jeff Dawson (303) 722-6758.

San Juan Chapter

This letter arrived in November from San
Juan Chapter President, Gretchen Van
Reyper:

It's the end of another field season, and time
to share with everyone some of the highlights
of this year's Western Slope field trips.

We started out on a sunny April day at Kodel
Canyon near Grand Junction. The white
blooms of *Fendlera rupicola* (Fendlerbush)
were all around as we started up the trail
amidst plentiful *Astragalus*, including *A.*

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Velma Richards, in Boulder from Tamara Naumann, in Fort Collins from Myrna
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mollissimus, *A. nuttallianus*, and *A.
desperatus*. The fascinating flowers of
Pedimelum megalanthum (Indian potato
or breadroot) and *Streptanthus cordatus*
(twistflower), and the rare miniature shrub-
like *Polygala subspinoso*, a member of the
milkwort family (Polygalaceae), made this
hike an interesting one. Thanks to the
efforts of Jeanne Wenger and Cindy Carlson
for their leadership.

In early May, we held a combination plant
and bird hike in conjunction with Migratory
Bird Week, as arranged by Montrose
member Tony Hoag, of the U. S. Forsest
Service. We went to the Escalante Wildlife
Area near Delta. We spotted several plants
in bloom, including *Oenothera speciosa*
(evening primrose) and *Allium
macropetalum* (wild onion), and a variety of
upland and water birds. The next stop was
Confluence Park in Delta, where we planted
at least one hundred cottonwood and willow
poles along the shore of the new wetland
area.

Our next trip was to Black Ridge in Colorado
National Monument, near Grand Junction,
in late May. Local member Betty Hall
shared her knowledge of the flora along this
trail. We saw many composites, including
Hymenopappus filifolius, *Packeria
multilobata* (Uinta groundsel), and *Erigeron
pumilus* (Vernal daisy). Some interesting
members of the Polemoniaceae family were
also in bloom—*Ipomopsis roseata* (rose
gilia) and *Leptodactylon pungens* (prickly
gilia). It was a beautiful spring day.

In July, several of us met in Gunnison with
people from the Bureau of Land
Management and the National Park Service
to conduct an inventory of *Astragalus
microcymbus* (skiff milkvetch). After
viewing some known colonies, we split into
two groups to cover as much sagebrush
habitat as possible along South Beaver Creek.
We explored some interesting territory and
discovered one new population that day.

In August we were off to Black Mesa near
Crawford with member Evelyn Horn, of
Delta. Despite the dry summer, we still
found plenty of interesting plants in habitats
ranging from sage meadows to riparian
areas to spruce-fir forest. We saw many
composites, including *Erigeron coulteri*
(Coulter daisy), *Aster engelmannii*
(Engelmann aster), and *Agoseris aurantiaca*
(orange agoseris). We enjoyed some
thimbleberries along the roadside and the
view from the top at lunch.

All in all, it was a fun season and I want to
thank all the trip leaders and participants.
We're getting more local interest. I want to
welcome any new members, and hope to
meet more of you in the coming year. My
goal in 1995 is to organize the trips early
enough to make the spring issue of *Aquilegia*.
With that in mind, let me know as soon as
you can of special places we could visit.
Have a good winter!

For up-to-date information on San Juan
Chapter activities, write or call Gretchen
Van Reyper, 2126 L75 Lane, Austin CO
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CALENDAR OVERVIEW

Boulder Chapter

- Jan 10** Galapagos International Scientific Program
- Feb 14** Natural History of the Southern Rockies
- Mar 14** Boulder Tallgrass Prairie
- Apr 11** Habitat Fragmentation In Mixed-Grass Prairie
- May 9** Spring Hike

Metro-Denver Chapter

- Jan 25** Rocky Mountain Horticultural (Weed) Show *and* Microscope Workshop
- Feb 22** Parry, Hall and Harbour—Early Colorado Collectors
- Mar 22** To Be Announced
- Apr 26** Plant-Insect Interactions

Fort Collins Chapter

- Jan 10** Plants and Their Habitats
- Feb 7** Embryos Inside Leaves? (*Mimulus gemmiparus*)
- Mar 7** Fire Ecology of Central Rockies Forest Types
- Apr 4** Old Growth Forests of the Medicine Bow National Forest
- May 2** For "Peat's" Sake—Grow Your Petunias With Something Else!



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