

# The Colorado Native Plant Society

"TO ENCOURAGE THE APPRECIATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE NATIVE PLANTS  
AND ECOSYSTEMS OF COLORADO"

The inspiration for an organization, whose principal aim is the conservation of the Colorado native flora, came in early 1976 through a workshop on threatened and endangered plants jointly sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service and the Audubon Society. As an outgrowth of discussions by concerned individuals, the Colorado Native Plant Society was formed and incorporated on June 10, 1976. Dr. William Weber of the University of Colorado presently serves as President of the Society.

Membership in the Society is open to all individuals concerned with conservation of the native flora. Activities will include efforts to bring public attention to the varied and unique habitats of the Colorado landscape and the need to conserve all elements of the native Colorado flora. Additional benefits of membership will include informative publications and organized field trips in addition to regular meetings. Local chapters will be encouraged to form and conduct activities on a regional basis. The Society can achieve its primary goal only through active participation of all who are interested in an appreciation of native plants.

A "Founder's Day" meeting was held in October. Members of the Society will be informed of future meetings and activities via a regular newsletter.

## Schedule of Membership Dues

Life	\$250.00	Family	\$12.00
Supporting	50.00	Individual	8.00
Organization	25.00	Student & Senior	4.00

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Desired: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks or money orders payable to "Colorado Native Plant Society"  
Membership applications may be sent to Dr. Dieter H. Wilken (Membership),  
Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins,  
Colorado, 80523.

# THE COLORADO NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

The publications Committee is actively working on plans with regard to a regular newsletter. Meanwhile, this missive will serve to apprise all members of recent events and information regarding activities of the Society.

### THE FIRST ANNUAL (FOUNDER) MEETING - HIGHLIGHTS

The First Annual Meeting of the Society was convened at 7:30 PM at the Denver Botanic Gardens with approximately 170 persons in attendance. Robert Turner, of the Denver Audubon Society, served as Master of Ceremonies. Steve Bissell, of the Colorado Division of Wildlife, gave a brief summary concerning the development and activities of the Society since its inception in March, 1976. Steve also introduced members of the Board of Directors, who served prior to the meeting. Chuck Feddema, of the U.S. Forest Service Herbarium, Ft. Collins, addressed his comments to the achievements and expressed goals of the Society, indicating the need for programs in education and activities related to the conservation of the native Colorado flora. On behalf of the Society, Kim Vories, Treasurer of the Society, presented Honorary Life Memberships to two distinguished Colorado botanists, Dr. Harold Harrington and Dr. William Weber. Dr. Weber, featured speaker of the First Annual Meeting gave an illustrated lecture entitled "Colorado's Circumglobal Flora".

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Five directors retired from the board as of October 9 and were replaced through an election held among the members at the Annual Meeting. The following is a list of the present Board:

Steven Bissell  
Route 3, Box 329-C  
Golden Colo. 80401

Genevieve Bryant  
1434 Summit View Drive  
Ft. Collins Colo. 80521

Chuck Feddema  
1137 So. Bryan  
Ft. Collins, Colo. 80521

Jon Halverson  
2070 Clermont  
Denver, Colo. 80207

Bill Harmon  
2040 5th Ave.  
Greeley, Colo. 80631

John Marr  
Dept. EPO Biology  
University of Colorado  
Boulder, Colo. 80309

\*Directors elected at Annual Meeting.

\*J. Scott Peterson  
BLM, Building 50  
Denver Federal Center  
Denver, Colo. 80226

Kim Vories  
P.O. Box 89  
Ft. Collins, Colo. 80522

\*Hugo Ferchau  
819 No. Pine  
Gunnison, Colo. 81230

\*William Gambill  
790 Gaylord Street  
Denver, Colo. 80206

\*William Weber  
University of Colorado Museum  
University of Colorado  
Boulder, Colo. 80309

\*Dieter Wilken  
Dept. Botany & Plant Pathology  
Colorado State University  
Ft. Collins, Colo. 80523

Hugo Ferchau, William Gambill and William Weber are new members of the Board. Scott Peterson and Dieter Wilken were re-elected. Retiring members of the Board were Karen Hollweg, Peter Mogielnicki and Jean Widman. Their service to the Society during its planning and development are considerably appreciated.

The officers for 1976-1977, as elected by the Board of Directors, are:

President: William Weber  
Vice-President: Hugo Ferchau  
Secretary: Dieter Wilken  
Treasurer: Kim Vories

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

At the Board meeting immediately following Bill Weber's Address, it was resolved to donate \$50.00 to the Denver Botanic Gardens covering expenses incurred during the meetings. The Board wishes to extend its appreciation to the Botanic Gardens for serving so graciously as a host to the First Annual Meeting. Coincidentally, the Botanic Gardens served as host to the Threatened and Endangered Species Workshop, sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service and Audubon Society in March, an event which led to the development of the Society.

Appreciation is also extended to Jean Widman and Lois Webster, who jointly organized the refreshments at the Annual Meeting and to Bob Turner, who graciously accepted the draft to serve as Master of Ceremonies.

The Board of Directors resolved to hold two (2) meetings prior to January 1. These meetings will be open to all interested members. Time and Place are:

7:30 PM, Monday November 1, University Club, Euclid Street, University of  
Colorado Campus, Boulder  
7:30 PM, Monday December 6, " " " " " "

Matters of discussion will include Committee activities and a general membership meeting tentatively scheduled for January, 1977.

COMMITTEES

The Society Bylaws allow for the establishment of a number of committees, which are designed to foster the principal aims of the Society. The following is a list of Society Committees, including descriptions of duties and members of the Society who have volunteered to participate.

MEMBERSHIP

This committee will attempt to contact and solicit individuals for membership in the Society. The membership committee will be in charge of maintaining accurate membership rolls with regard to classification of membership and eligibility for voting purposes.

Board Member: Dieter Wilken

Volunteers: Sue Martin  
4700 Venturi Lane  
Ft. Collins 80521  
  
Beth Painter  
224 E. Elizabeth  
Ft. Collins 80521

FIELD TRIP

This committee will organize Society sponsored field trips. Regional field trips will be encouraged so that a good geographic representation of the Colorado flora will be accomplished. It is hoped that this committee will communicate closely with members of the Education Committee for maximum effectiveness in providing information.

Board Member: Hugo Ferchau

Volunteers: Dexter Hess                                  Robert Heapes  
Otero Junior College              1024 Deertrail Drive  
La Junta, Colo. 81050              Parker, Colo. 80134

Herb Owen  
100 Rio Vista  
Durango, Colo. 81301

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

This committee will attempt to inform the general public with regard to aims, purposes and activities of the Society. The committee will attempt to establish contacts with all public media.

Board Member: Steve Bissell

Volunteers: Jean Widman                                  Jeff Pecka  
2676 So. York                                  1700 17th Street  
Denver, Colo. 80210                          Boulder, Colo. 80302

PUBLICATIONS

This committee will be responsible for developing the Society's publications, including a regular Newsletter and a Bulletin or Journal for more lengthy articles.

Board Member: J. Scott Peterson

Volunteers: Kim Vories                                  Paul Bryant  
P.O. Box 89                                  1434 Summit View Drive  
Ft. Collins, Colo. 80522                      Ft. Collins, Colo. 80521

Jeff Pecka  
1700 17th Street  
Boulder, Colorado 80302

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

This committee will review governmental documents regarding native plants and will attempt to keep the membership apprised of such publications and activities. The committee will also attempt to develop a format for review of environment-related reports.

Board Member: Hugo Ferchau

Volunteers: Stuart Teubner                                  Barry Johnston  
8030 So. Marshall Court                      University of Colorado Museum  
Littleton, Colo. 80123                          University of Colorado  
Alice Gordon                                  Boulder, Colo. 80309  
1290 So. Glencoe  
Denver, Colo. 80222





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your President, I think I should extend a greeting to all of you in this first newsletter and to try and point the directions I think we ought to take during this first year of our existence as a society dedicated to the preservation and conservation of the native plants and vegetation of Colorado.

We are going to have to provide our own peculiar brand of leadership and expertise to the nervous system of the Endangered Species Act in Washington; we are going to have to inform and try to stand on common ground with farmers, ranchers, miners and developers, who are suspicious of the potential effect of the Act on their livelihoods; we are going to have to define, for our region and its peculiar problems, just what we mean by "threatened" and "endangered", and the scientists among us are going to have to spend some time with the biology of these plants to find out just why they are threatened or endangered.

Recently, I had a very interesting conversation with a student, who, for a class project, was tackling the problems of the Wood Lily (Lilium philadelphicum). Do any of us really know why this plant is scattered in isolated, few-plant stands, why it is endangered here, what might be done to encourage its increase, and what precisely are the ecological characteristics of its optimum habitat? I am sure that we will find, as ornithologists have, that there is an enormous contribution of the patient observation, note-taking, and use of gray cells on the part of dedicated amateurs.

This year we should plan to refine our Society's list of threatened and endangered species and to try to spell out the particular circumstances of each as far as we are now able. We will try to see that truly endangered ones will find their way on the official lists. We should also accumulate a list of sensitive geographic areas of concentrations of these plants. I should like to suggest that the Hoosier Pass area would be an excellent place to begin such efforts.

Hoosier Pass is probably the most critical spot in Colorado for concentration of rare alpine plants. Armeria maritima, Eutrema penlandii, Braya humilis and Ipomopsis globularis occur here at their only known Colorado or world stations; other species are only a little less restricted. The site is easily accessible but both sides of the Pass are being developed with summer homes. Who owns the pass proper? How safe is it from encroachment? What would be necessary to preserve it or give it a "landmark" status? I feel that we as a Society will have gone far along the road to saving our most significant endangered plants and habitat if we could accomplish something for Hoosier Pass this year.

How much should we educate the general public in the recognition of threatened or endangered species? Do we need a kodachrome file or a coffee-table book with plates? This is a sword that cuts both ways. In Norway a rare species of Lactuca is said to have been put on the endangered list and protected by a fence in northern Norwegian Lapland. We are told that Professor Nordhagen and his colleagues decided to visit the site after about twenty years and to see how it was doing. They arrived at the site and found that the plant had been exterminated within the fence, but was flourishing outside. The school children, having to make plant collections during the summer, knew that the plant within the fence was what they were after, but may not have been quite so sure about those growing outside. Perhaps we should also keep before us the example of the Yellow Lady'S Slipper, which has survived in Colorado simply because most of the colonies occur on private land guarded by sympathetic owners. Most of the Colorado public have never seen one and

perhaps this is a good thing. Or is it?

While this society is a combination of amateurs and professionals. I would argue that this is not simply a "Botany" club established for general information and socializing. We do have a mission, and perhaps when we accomplish the mission we should disband. The likelihood of ever making Colorado safe for plants, however, is very low. Let us keep our eyes on the goal we have set, so that within a reasonable time, say the next 5 years, some real progress will have been made. I am grateful for having been honored with the baton for 1976-1977 and I hope to get to know many of you better during this time in office.

Sincerely,  
William A. Weber

#### MEMBERS

At the time this newsletter is being prepared the Society constitutes 110 members (60 Individuals, 22 Families, 15 Students, 9 Seniors, 2 Organizations and 2 Honorary Life Members). A membership form is included with this mailing. Each member is asked to take the responsibility in adding another. There must be many more potential members that have not yet heard of the goals of the Society and we should make every effort to publicize our interests.

#### FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

All ideas, including criticisms, matters of interest to the general membership and suggestions for future articles should be sent to Scott Peterson, who is presently in charge of future publications. The next newsletter will contain a list of members, which is too long for present inclusion.

#### PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

"Natural History Inventory of Colorado. Part I. Vascular Plants, Bryophytes and Lichens" by William Weber is available from the University of Colorado Museum, Boulder Colorado 80309 \$15.00

"Rocky Mountain Flora, 5th Edition" by William Weber. Colorado Associated University Press, 1424 15th Street, Boulder, Colorado 80302  
Text Edition: \$9.50 Trade Edition: 12.50

#### MISSING MEMBER

We received a check from Randal L Stephens for Student membership but we do not have an address. If anyone knows of him, please inform the Secretary of his address. If any addresses are incorrect with regard to your own mailing, please inform the Secretary.