

# Aquilegia

Newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society

Dedicated to the appreciation and conservation of Colorado native flora and habitat



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## 2011 RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Members' contributions to the John W. Marr Fund and the Myrna P. Steinkamp Memorial Fund support research projects in plant biology. These separate funds honor the late Dr. John Marr, Professor at the University of Colorado and president of the Society, and Myrna Steinkamp, a founding member of the Society who working its behalf for many years in a number of capacities.

The Marr fund supports research on the biology of Colorado native plants and plant communities. The Steinkamp fund supports research on the biology of rare Colorado native plants.

The Society is grateful to those of you who contribute to the John W. Marr and Myrna P. Steinkamp funds. Your donations make possible many research projects dealing with the plants of Colorado. This research contributes to a better understanding of our native plants and is integral for conservation. Numerous projects funded by CONPS grants have resulted in publications in scholarly journals.

Contributors to the funds in 2010 were acknowledged in the Spring issue of *Aquilegia*, and their support is again gratefully appreciated.

This year, CoNPS received an unprecedented 15 grant proposals from 14 researchers representing a variety of organizations including Dartmouth College, Uni-

versity of California (Irvine), Washington State University, and the University of Wyoming, as well as a number of in-state universities. As might be expected, the task of selecting the four recipients from so many excellent proposals was a challenge to the Research Grants Committee, which includes Jan Loechell Turner (Chair), Catherine Kleier, Jennifer Ramp Neal, and Dina Clark. Their expertise and commitment of time for thoughtful review is much appreciated.

The Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2011 Marr and Steinkamp grants.

### 2011 JOHN W. MARR GRANT AWARDS

**Ross McCauley, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor of Biology, Herbarium Curator. Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO). Genetic differentiation between alpine and montane populations of *Viola adunca* (Violaceae) in the San Juan Mountains. \$982**

“Given the evidence suggesting that the taxon previously known as *Viola bellidifolia* is distinct from the more widespread *Viola adunca*, I am investigating the extent of its segregation from the more typical form of *V. adunca* initially focusing on the region of the San Juan Mountains from where it was first described and is very distinct. I am working to determine if *V. bellidifolia* and *V. adunca* maintain a continuous gene pool between the two

taxa or if they are isolated either through habitat differences, phenological differences, and/or chromosome compatibility. This work is being undertaken with students from Fort Lewis College in Durango and serving as a means to teach methods of systematic evaluation of species differentiation. It is hoped that this work will serve to increase our knowledge of these plants in the high alpine zone of Colorado, provide a clear explanation for their evolutionary origin, and allow for the application of a name at the appropriate level of the taxonomic hierarchy.”

**Scott Smith (in cooperation with Tim Hogan, Collection Manager, University of Colorado, Boulder). Survey of the ferns and orchids of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains (Part 2). \$1,000**

“This project is being undertaken to try to determine what ferns, fern allies and orchids exist in the Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range. This will be the second year of this survey. The first year’s survey went exceedingly well. Six new *Botrychium* ferns as well as an additional populations of the rare fern *Asplenium trichomanes* ssp *ramosum* were found in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Cacti will be an additional focus during the second year of the survey.”

#### **2011 MYRNA P. STEINKAMP GRANT AWARDS**

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**Anna Schwabe, (M.S. Student in Plant Population Genetics, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO). Analysis of chloroplast DNA from *Sclerocactus glaucus* and *Sclerocactus parviflorus* to determine the level of directionality and hybridization between these two species. \$1,000**

“*Sclerocactus glaucus* is an endangered plant species endemic to Colorado (UFWS 1979). Current genetic research is working to clarify some of the questions surrounding this species. The major current threat to the continued existence of *S. glaucus* is the possible hybridization with the closely related and more common *S. parviflorus*. If there is hybridization and it continues to occur *S. glaucus*

will effectively become extinct. I propose to use chloroplast DNA analysis with *S. glaucus* and *S. parviflorus* samples we have from over 30 populations. This analysis will give a sense of the directionality of hybridization. Chloroplast DNA is maternally inherited and is therefore passed to offspring via seeds. Using this information we will be able to tell if populations of *S. glaucus* are being infiltrated by *S. parviflorus*. This data will allow us to determine historical evolutionary patterns of *S. glaucus*. Additionally if it were found that *P. glaucus* was being infiltrated by *S. glaucus* pollen it would create more interesting questions about environmental and geographical dispersal of this species. With this data we will be able to examine historical genetic relationships between populations of *S. glaucus* and *S. parviflorus*. The chloroplast DNA analysis will be in addition to my work examining nuclear genetic diversity. The data generated from this project can then be used by conservationists to determine how these species may be interacting and make plans toward their preservation. This genetic data will help define conservation management units, expand our understanding of species interactions with *Sclerocactus*, and add an evolution dimension for conservation activities.”

**Mare Nazaire, (Ph.D. Candidate and Assistant Curator of the Ownbey Herbarium, School of Biological Sciences, Washington State University, Pullman, WA). The geographic and ecological basis of species richness: Diversification in Western North American *Mertensia* (Boraginaceae). \$1,000**

“A fundamental challenge in evolutionary biology and ecology lies in explaining why biotic diversity differs among geographic regions. Patterns of species richness ultimately reflect evolutionary and ecological opportunities and current patterns reflect constraints and contingencies expressed historically. We can now apply phylogenetic trees to infer whether historical shifts in clade diversification may have been influenced by dispersal or other geographic changes. My goal is to uncover factors that spur clade diversification and bias geographical patterns of species diversity.

The proposed research centers on the bluebells (*Mertensia*), a genus of perennial herbs with greatest species richness in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Ten species and 11 varieties occur in Colorado. My goal is to uncover factors that spur clade diversification and bias geographical patterns of species diversity. I will also examine whether niche evolution or conservatism has played a greater role as the genus has dispersed into mountains. My research objectives are to: (1) produce the first molecular phylogeny for *Mertensia*; (2) estimate a divergence time for *Mertensia*; and (3) examine patterns of geographic and/or ecological diversification in western North American radiations. I will sequence 13 chloroplast markers for the 10 species in Colorado. Likelihood and Bayesian methods will be used to construct a phylogenetic hypothesis of relationships. Divergence times using fossil calibrations will be estimated under relaxed clock

methods. The resulting chronogram will be used to test hypotheses regarding geographic and ecological change and diversification. Recently developed quantitative methods will be used to test for associations between geographic and/or ecological change and diversification. My results will help explain the dynamics that drive plant diversification and for understanding the effects of anthropogenic climate change. Anthropogenic climate change may threaten high elevation species of *Mertensia*. Studies have already pointed to shifts in flowering phenology for some *Mertensia* species. This may be especially relevant for *M. alpina* and *M. humilis*, which are listed as critically imperiled for Colorado. This research will provide a framework to better understand Colorado's unique plant diversity and for informing conservation management decisions.”

## 2011 FIELD TRIPS

### Colorado Native Plant Society

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*The goal of our field trips is to get as many people outside as possible, and there is no shortage of possibilities! Here are a few tips as you seek to venture out this field season:*

- *Please sign up for trips early as there may be limits to the number of participants. If full, many trips will also have waiting lists; even if a trip is full now, get your name on the list and don't give up hope!*
- *Details on where and when to meeting is available online on each chapter's web page, or by contacting field trip leaders.*
- *When attending a trip, be sure to bring a lunch, plenty of water, sun protection, bug spray, your favorite plant identification guides, a 10X magnifying glass, packable rain gear, and layers*

*adaptable to Colorado's unpredictable and rapid weather changes.*

- *All trips are free and open to members and non-members (subject to group size limitations).*
- *No pets are allowed on field trips.*
- *Please check each chapter's web page for trip details and to see if any new trips have been added.*
- *Have fun!*

*All trips are subject to CoNPS field trip policies that emphasize “treading lightly” and adhering to strict limitations on plant collecting. These policies and guidelines are posted online at [www.conps.org](http://www.conps.org).*

## METRO DENVER CHAPTER

### SUMMIT LAKE

July 29th, Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM

*There will be three site visits. The first stop will be above Summit Lake, the second stop at Summit Lake, and the final stop at the Visitor's Center. A variety of subalpine penstemons should still be in bloom, arctic gentians, and marsh marigolds. Each stop will feature a hike of one-half to one mile.*

*Meet in the parking lot east of Echo Lake Lodge. Bring lunch, water, hand lens, field guides, and layers of clothing.*

**Lenore Mitchell** has been a Native Plant Master Instructor in Jefferson County for 5 years

Contact the leader for additional details at [lenoremitchell@msn.com](mailto:lenoremitchell@msn.com) 303-934-2691.

### " LANDSCAPING FOR HUMMINGBIRDS AND SONGBIRDS"

July 31, Sunday, 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM

*Plants which hummingbirds feed on will be discussed, in addition to identifying some of the hummers. Many of these plants are native to the Southwest and some are native to CO. Tina has had up to 6 species of hummingbirds in her yard, including an Anna's Hummingbird which spent 4 months at Tina's house, from Oct. to Jan. Along with hummingbirds Tina has many Songbirds, of which some nest in her boxes. Many shrubs have been planted for the birds, including Barberry [Berberis fendleri], and the unusual wild Buckthorn from the western slope [Rhamnus smithii]. Other native shrubs are abundant. Tina had a pair of Mountain Chickadees and a pair of Red-breasted Nuthatch nest in her bird boxes. There is minimal walking and one can bring a stool to sit on, to observe the birds.*

*Bring a hat, water, snacks or your dinner, binoculars, stool to sit on, sunblock, and hand lens and bird field guide if you desire.*

**LEADER:** **Tina Jones** developed a love of Arctic and Alpine plants while studying at the University of Colorado. Tina has taught classes on Alpine Plant Adaptations and Edible and Medicinal Plants for the Denver Botanic Gardens, and for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. In the late 1980's Tina was Vice President of the Colorado Native Plant Society, and helped organize the CoNPS annual convention at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

**LOCATION :** 4400 Bow Mar Dr., Littleton, CO.

**DIRECTIONS :** Class is at, and participants meet at, 4400 Bow Mar Dr., Littleton, CO [instructor's house]. From Fort Logan Cemetery go S. on S. Sheridan to the intersection of W. Quincy and S. Sheridan, drive SOUTH ON Sheridan to the first stop sign [which is just S. of W. Quincy and S. Sheridan]. At the stop sign take a right onto Sunset [head west]. Go west about one mile to Bow Mar Dr. Take a right on Bow Mar Dr. and go north to the FIRST driveway on your right. This is 4400 Bow Mar Dr. Do not park in driveway unless you are handicapped. PARK on the WEST side of Bow Mar Dr., across from 4400. Park on the west side of Bow Mar Dr. so that your car is half on the grass and half on the road, underneath the large Cottonwoods. Do not park on the east side of Bow Mar. Thank you!

**CONTACT :** [tjcalliope@hotmail.com](mailto:tjcalliope@hotmail.com), or cell 303-906-5479. home 303-794-2647

**CLASS LIMIT :** 20 PARTICIPANTS

### SECRET LITTLE PLACES IN COMMON OPEN SPACES (PART 2)

August 5, 2011, Friday

**Morning.** Drive to Evergreen and take rpt 103 up toward Echo Lake. There is a lane coming off the left as you go up that leads to an old picnic area which contains a gazebo and a spring. The CCC during the depression built it. Liverworts are found in the creek. The north facing hillside supports a stand of subalpine fir. Wood nymphs, various pyrola, and bunch berry. The stream along the road has several different orchids. We could sweep search the north facing slope and see what else we find. Lunch among the wood nymphs.

**Afternoon.** Back to the highway and to the top of Loveland pass and Loveland Lakes for beautiful displays of alpine flowers including swamp laurel.

Bring lunch, layers of clothing, hand lens and field guides.

**Leaders: Vickey Trammel,** past president of the Metro Denver Chapter of the Colorado Native Plant Society, recently retired from teaching biology at Arapahoe Community College, and currently conducting ecosystem research at Roxborough State Park. **Lenore Mitchell,** Native Plant Master Instructor in Jefferson County for five years.

**Contact:** Vickey Trammel for meeting time and directions, JRTRAMBO@Q.COM, 303-795-5843

#### GENEVA BASIN IRON FENS

**Saturday, August 13**

Meet 7:30AM; return 5:00 PM

*This is a designated Colorado Natural Area, due to its unusual habitat and vegetation. It is a site for Sphagnum balticus, a boreal sphagnum. The vegetational species in an iron fen are limited to 8 plant species, due to the high dissolved iron content. Where there are underground fresh water sources, there are numerous other common wetland plants. The terrain is mostly level to slightly sloping. However, most terrain is wet, with a few small streams, so a good waterproof boot is recommended. Several sites will be visited with the longest hike being one-half mile. Elevation is 11,000 feet, so plan for typical mountain weather.*

**Leader: Dave Bathke,** Volunteer for Clear Creek County Open Space. Also volunteer for Colorado State Parks Natural Areas Program, and Pike National Forest. Has Masters in Science (Botany) from Western State College. Retired after 33 years with National Park Service as Park Ranger, Planner and Environmental Compliance Specialist.

**Location:** Meet at Dinosaur Parking Lot at I-70 and Highway 93 (Hogback Road). This is north of I-70 and west of the Hogback Road. We will carpool, and we will need 4-wheel drive vehicles. Meet here at 7:30 AM. We will then drive west on U.S. 285 to Grant and north on

Guanella Pass Road and west on Geneva Creek road. Last five miles are 4-wheel-drive. It takes about 2 hours to reach the iron fens. Anyone coming from the west should wait at Grant, meeting about 8:15. There is now a locked gate one mile before the site, so we will need to carpool and caravan together for entry.

Contact: Fran Enright, franenright@earthlink.net, 303-674-2657 or Dave Bathke, dibathke@juno.com

## SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

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### "Go Where They Grow!"©

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** All Southeast Chapter field trips start in the a.m. and go into the afternoon, time depending on distance and species covered. Except as noted, participants should bring a lunch, plenty of water, their favorite flora(s), 10X hand lens, and packable rain gear. The SE Chapter welcomes everyone from professional botanists to beginners.

**REGISTRATION:** Advance registration is required since leaders typically limit participation to somewhere between 10 and 15 persons.

**HOW TO REGISTER FOR A TRIP:** Simply e-mail your name, name of trip and date, and phone number (in the event of a last minute cancellation), to **SE-trips@gmail.com**. You will be contacted by reply e-mail to confirm your registration or, if a trip is full, given the option of being wait-listed.

**IMPORTANT:** An announcement with details on each trip is e-mailed two to three weeks in advance of each trip date. Be sure to give us your e-mail address. (SE Chapter members automatically receive announcements.)

For information about the SE Chapter, Colorado Native Plant Society, please visit us at [www.conps.org](http://www.conps.org) and click on "Southeast Chapter."

#### GREENHORN PEAK

**Saturday, July 30**

Greenhorn peak is one of the most accessible, and scenic, alpine environments in Colorado. Sky Pilot, King's Crown,

*Alpine Chiming Bells, Jacob's Ladder - to name a few - grow in the andesitic lava along the 1.5 mile trail to the top. We'll meet just off Hwy. 165 near Bishop's Castle and carpool for the easy 22-mile drive to the trailhead.*

**Leader:** Dr. Neal Osborn, professor emeritus, CSU-Pueblo

**Location:** Greenhorn Wilderness Area

**Rating:** Easy to Moderate.

### MOSCA PASS

**Saturday, August 6**

*This is a re-scheduled trip from last year, when the area was closed to give firefighters access to a distant location. This trail is easily accessed on the eastern slope of the Sangres, and offers meadows, rocky exposures and*

*riparian habitats. After botanizing, some may want to make a day of it and climb the dunes.*

**Leader:** Steve Olson, botanist, USFS

**Location:** 5 miles west of Gardner, Colorado

**Rating:** Easy to Strenuous

### QUEEN'S CANYON QUARRY, Colorado Springs

**Saturday, August 27**

*This is the one of the "scars" on the mountains above Colorado Springs, and a limited access area managed by the Colorado Mountain Reclamation Foundation. We'll evaluate this interesting area as native plant habitat and likely observe some of the large population of Bighorn Sheep. Much more info to come.*

**Leaders:** Doris Drisgill and George Cameron

**Rating:** Easy

## 2011 FIELD STUDIES

The Colorado Native Plant Society annually collaborates with various agencies, academic institutions, and other partners in field research to promote the conservation and management of Colorado's rare plants. You are invited to participate in conducting field research, such as performing general plant inventories or monitoring rare plants.

Field studies are a rewarding and hands-on way to view Colorado's rare plants in their habitats, and your help contributes to the understanding of their ecology, distribution, and conservation needs.

For more information or to register for a field study, contact the coordinators below or Steve Popovich, Field Studies Committee, [stevepopovich@hotmail.com](mailto:stevepopovich@hotmail.com), or call 970-295-6641.

### HIGH ELEVATION FEN RECONNAISSANCE NEAR BOULDER

**July 30**

Join Colorado's own fen authority Dr. David Cooper and Roosevelt National Forest Botanist Steve Popovich in exploring a subalpine fen (10,600 feet elevation) with incredible views of the surrounding mountains near Brainard Lake west of Boulder. We will be deriv-

ing baseline lists of vascular plant species and perhaps mosses. Fens are specialized wetlands that are fascinating to visit. The one-day trip includes a flat 3/4-mile walk-in and driving on graded dirt roads, and is limited to 6 people (avid Botanists and novice plant enthusiasts welcome). Rubber boots are required. Contact: Steve Popovich, [stevepopovich@hotmail.com](mailto:stevepopovich@hotmail.com), or call 970-295-6641.

### 2010 ELECTION CoNPS BOARD MEMBERS

Would you like to be on the Board of Directors? Would you like to nominate someone who will work diligently to further the CoNPS mission? If so, please contact Crystal Strauss, CoNPS President, at [csnativeplants@gmail.com](mailto:csnativeplants@gmail.com).

Board members attend meetings in person or via teleconferencing. They are expected to actively support the CoNPS mission with their experience and enthusiasm, and actively participate in Board meetings.

The Board is made up of the Society officers, chapter presidents, and six at-large members. Terms of three at-large members expire this year.

# STOPPING THE RUMORS: Proposed Road Construction at Mount Evans

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By Steve Popovich, Arapaho National Forest Botanist and CoNPS Member

This summer some of you may have heard about a proposal by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) to repair a stretch of deteriorating road near Summit Lake Park, located along the Mount Evans Scenic Byway west of Denver. The road segment that may undergo repair is on lands administered by both Denver Mountain Parks and the U.S. Forest Service.

Rumors were generated that road repair was imminent and could adversely affect rare alpine plant communities and noteworthy wetlands present near Summit Lake.

During the summer, the area is filled with wildflowers, some of which are rare in Colorado, and some mosses have not been found anywhere outside of the polar regions. The area is one of the “crown jewels” of Colorado flora, and was dedicated a National Natural Landmark (NNL) in the 1960’s to recognize its important contribution to biological diversity.

Denver Mountain Parks, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service (which serves as NNL coordinator) expressed concerns about the project. As a result, several meetings were held last summer between CDOT and internal stakeholders to better review potential impacts to these fragile resources from proposed project activities. Concerns were recognized by CDOT, and a technical committee was convened to further address the issues.

In realizing that additional data are necessary to more fully assess potential impacts, CDOT has post-poned project design until additional data can be collected this summer by the committee. Denver Mountain Parks and the Forest Service will continue to provide input and express views. CDOT is respectful and sensitive to the concerns. We all wish to avoid or minimize potential adverse impacts to these important botanical and hydrologic resources, and we will work closely together on this project in the coming year.

Rest assured, the CoNPS board has been engaged in this issue and will continue to work with stakeholders to provide input and a position statement as appropriate. CoNPS seeks a project design that will adequately address safety concerns of the faltering road yet avoid or minimize potential adverse impacts to rare plants and their habitat to allow for continued sustainability of this Colorado jewel.

Contrary to what you may have heard or read on State web sites, the road will not undergo major re-design or repair this summer (but some potholes or slump spots may be filled). Rather, the project will be reviewed during the coming year for design compatibility with these issues. For more information, contact Steve Popovich, [sjpopovich@fs.fed.us](mailto:sjpopovich@fs.fed.us), or (970) 295-6641.

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## CHAPTER NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BOULDER CHAPTER

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*Boulder Chapter programs are held on the second Thursday of each month (September through April) from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. All meetings, except as noted, are held at the Community Room at the Boulder REI Store at 1789 28<sup>th</sup> Street (between Canyon and Pearl). For more information, please e-mail Chapter President Elizabeth Drozda-Freeman at [elizabeth.wildflower@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.wildflower@gmail.com) or call her at 303-586-1810. Please support zero waste by bringing your own cup and plate.*

### FIRE SERIES

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***First Monday Evening of every month at REI! Same great location, same time of evening, different day of month***

Join us at REI for a series of presentations regarding fire: science, history, ecology, and safety in Boulder County. Sponsored by the Colorado Native Plant Society Boulder Chapter, Boulder County Nature Association, Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks.

**Monday, August 1**

### **County Community Wildfire Protection Plan**

Jim Webster presents on the County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), the product of thousands of hours of discussion with community volunteers and professional fire folks. Boulder County's CWPP is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2011, so this presentation will revolved around the draft plan rather than the final version. Time will be allowed for questions and answers and discussion. Jim Webster, Boulder County CWPP Planner, has 20 years of experience in collaborative environmental and natural resources planning.

**Wednesday, September 7**

### **Community Post-Fire Effect Stories**

On this first anniversary of the Four Mile Fire, a panel of speakers will start us off by sharing their post-fire-effect personal stories. We invite you to share your story in a one- to three-minute format (talk / music / poetry) so we can include everyone who would like to contribute. Please let us know if you have artwork you would like to stage in the room for this meeting.

### **OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

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#### **Thursday August 4, 2011 Ute ladies'-tresses Orchid and Tallgrass Field Trip, 5:30 – 8:00pm with Lynn Riedel and Bill Jennings**

Join us for a visit into wet meadows near South Boulder Creek where the Ute ladies'-tresses orchid (*Spiranthes diluvialis*) will be flowering and tallgrass species will be maturing. Learn more about this rare orchid's habitat and enjoy a summer evening of botanizing. Bring a picnic dinner, if you would like, and don't forget the mosquito repellent! RSVP with Lynn at [riedell@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:riedell@bouldercolorado.gov)

#### **Sunday August 28, 2011 Ouzel Fire Regeneration Hike Joyce Gellhorn 8 am.**

Dr. Joyce Gellhorn, mountain naturalist, scientist, fire ecology teacher, author, has studied the startling regeneration process of the forest in the RMNP Ouzel Fire area for the past thirty years. She presented a power point on this topic at the CoNPS meeting this past Feb-

ruary. This is a chance to hike in and observe some of these changes this year with Joyce. Hike restricted to 15 people. If there is enough demand, a second hike can be scheduled. We'll meet at the trailhead to Wild Basin. **RSVP to Joyce at: [jggellhorn@mac.com](mailto:jggellhorn@mac.com)**

**Saturday September 10, 2011 9 am to 3 pm**

### **The Small and Colorful World of Lichens Field Trip with Ann Henson**

Join Ann Henson, a serious student of lichens since 2006 on this lichen hike, part of a year-round series. Our walk will be slow in rolling to steep terrain and may be at higher altitudes. We will explore the area for lichens of soil, trees, rocks and moss. Bring a hand lens. We will reference "The Field Guide to Common Rocky Mountain Lichens" by Larry St. Clair and copies are available from CoNPS Bookstore. Dress for the weather. Bring lunch and water. Restrooms may not be available. Location and meeting place will be determined shortly before each trip but will be in the Front Range area. The trips will generally go regardless of weather. Held in conjunction with Boulder County Nature Association. See [www.bcna.org](http://www.bcna.org) To register, call or email Ann: [ahenson@kwabena.us](mailto:ahenson@kwabena.us) 303.772.8962)

### **METRO-DENVER CHAPTER**

*Monthly meetings of the Metro-Denver Chapter are typically held on the fourth Tuesday of the month (September through May, except November) at the Denver Botanic Gardens. For more information, visit [www.CoNPS.org](http://www.CoNPS.org) or contact Jannette Wesley (303) 969-2131 (daytime) or (303) 985-5299 (evenings).*

### **NORTHERN COLORADO CHAPTER**

#### **MONTHLY MEETINGS NIGHTS ARE CHANGING**

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*For many years the Northern Chapter has met the first Wednesday of each month. This year, the meetings will be held at the same time and place (7:00 PM at the Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins) but will change to Thursday nights - with the exception of our meeting in December which will be on a Wednesday night (because our meeting room at the Gardens on Spring Creek has already been booked for that Thursday night).*



*Our first meeting of the year will be Thursday, November 03, 2011 and continuing: Wednesday, December 07, 2011, Thursday, January 05, 2012, Thursday, February 02, 2012, Thursday, March 01, 2012, Thursday, April 05, 2012 and Thursday, May 03, 2012. We are in the process of getting our speaker line up together. If you have any suggestions contact Pam Smith at [pamelas4824@earthlink.net](mailto:pamelas4824@earthlink.net).*

#### NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE NORTHERN CHAPTER

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Pam Smith has been president for three years and Phil Phelan has been vice president of the Northern Chapter for at least twice that long. Beginning in October, two chapter members will assume these duties.

#### JENNIFER ACKERFIELD, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Jennifer Ackerfield is the curator at Colorado State University Herbarium. She has recently been awarded an NSF grant to upgrade the herbarium. Jennifer has been teaching botany classes at CSU for a number of years. She hails from Kansas and still makes frequent trips back home botanizing along the way. She has been involved in writing her own key for the Colorado Flora, a task she started to teach her students and currently her key covers the entire state and all but one or two plant families! She has participated in bioblitzes and plant studies around the state. Jennifer brings with her a vast amount of knowledge and interesting connections to what is happening in the world of botany from an academic perspective.

#### STACEY ANDERSON

Stacey has been an active member of the Native Plant Society for four years and has a very diverse background as she enjoys gardening and getting out to know the wild plants. Stacey will be the new Vice President of the Northern Chapter. She has been involved in many local groups that grow their own food, Native Plant Masters and more. Stacey started botanizing in college and spent time driving around eastern Nebraska collecting land use data for the Department of Agriculture. She has volunteer experience working at a raised bog with the Irish Peatlands Conservation Coun-

cil, and she has worked in the San Luis Valley with the Colorado Natural Heritage Program. Her entire yard is a fabulous vegetable and native plant garden! Stacey brings enthusiasm as well as gardening and plant survey experience from around the state.

#### SUMMER WILDFLOWER WALKS WILL CONTINUE INTO THE FALL

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Bi-weekly wildflower walks were proposed by one of our members and have been very successful. We hope to continue those through mid-October. Pam Smith will continue to send updates to members as they are scheduled. We have generated plant lists for Eagle's Nest, Phantom Canyon Ranch area, Pineridge Natural Area, North Shields Pond Natural area and more. These will be available soon on our website. Watch also for postings for new wildflower walks.

You are invited to facilitate one of these walks. You don't even need to know your plants. You just need to have a place where you would like to get together for an evening with fellow members and learn together. If you are interested, please contact Pam Smith at [pamelas4824@earthlink.net](mailto:pamelas4824@earthlink.net).

#### PLATEAU CHAPTER

*Chapter activities are scheduled throughout the year. For more information, visit [www.CoNPS.org](http://www.CoNPS.org) or contact Chapter President Gay Austin at [austin-ceae@frontier.net](mailto:austin-ceae@frontier.net).*

#### SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

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*Activities of the Southeast Chapter are scheduled throughout the year and include field trips and meetings. Regular chapter meetings (always with an educational focus) will begin in October in both Pueblo and Colorado Springs. Those wishing more information can e-mail us as [SEtrips@gmail.com](mailto:SEtrips@gmail.com) and we will add you to our distribution list.*

# AQUILEGIA

Newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society

Aquilegia is the newsletter of the Colorado Native Plant Society, and is available to members of the Society and to others with an interest in native plants. Four regular issues are published each year, plus a special issue for the annual Society meeting held in September

Announcements, news, articles, book reviews, poems, botanical illustrations, and other contributions should be sent to the editor at [bh.prairieink@gmail.com](mailto:bh.prairieink@gmail.com).

All contributions are subject to editing for brevity and consistency, with final approval of material changes by the author.

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

## Deadlines

Submissions to Aquilegia are accepted throughout the year, although deadlines for publication are:

- February 15 (Spring issue, published March 1)
- April 15 (Summer issue, published May 15)
- June 15 (Annual Meeting issue, published July 15)
- July 15 (Fall issue, published Aug. 15)
- October 15 (Winter issue, published November 15)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) .....  
Address .....  
City ..... State..... Zip .....  
Phone \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ E-mail .....

### MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Dues cover a 12-month period.

- Individual (\$20.00)
- Family / dual (\$30.00)
- Senior (65+) (\$12.00)
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### CHAPTER

You are free to affiliate with any chapter you choose and to attend the meetings of any chapter. Chapters do not have drawn map boundaries; the locations below indicate the usual meeting place of chapter meetings.

- Boulder     Metro-Denver     Northern
- Plateau     Southeast     Southwest

### OPTIONAL E-MAIL DELIVERY OF Aquilegia

Many members prefer to receive the newsletter electronically via e-mail, and this saves the Society considerable printing and postage expense. If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, please check this box and provide your e-mail address above.

- Please deliver Aquilegia electronically to the above e-mail address.

### DONATION

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ General Fund

Endowments in support of small grants-in-aid of research:

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ John Marr Fund: research on the biology and natural history of Colorado native plants.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Myrna P. Steinkamp Memorial Fund: research and other activities to benefit the rare plants of Colorado

Mail to: Eric Lane, P.O. Box 200, Fort Collins, CO 80522

Please make checks payable to "Colorado Native Plant Society"

Dues and contributions are tax-deductible.

# Colorado Native Plant Society

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The Colorado Native Plant Society is dedicated to furthering the knowledge, appreciation and conservation of native plants and habitats of Colorado through education, stewardship and advocacy.

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 learning about, enjoying and protecting Colorado's native plants.

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## 2011 ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, September 30  
Saturday, October 1  
Sunday, October 2

**CARBONDALE, COLORADO**

The Plateau Chapter is sponsoring the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Colorado Native Plant Society, to be held in Carbondale the weekend of September 30 to October 2.

Additional information on the meeting will be forthcoming in the Annual Meeting issue of the newsletter, or you may contact Bernadette Kuhn, CoNPS Vice President, or Gay Austin, Plateau Chapter President.



P.O. Box 200  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522  
<http://www.conps.org>



## CALENDAR 2011

(see inside for details)

### CoNPS ANNUAL MEETING

Sept 30 to October 2, Carbondale  
*(additional information forthcoming  
in Annual Meeting issue of Aquilegia)*

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

October 22, Regis University, Denver

### FIELD STUDIES

July 30, High Elevation Fen Reconnaissance, near Boulder

### BOULDER CHAPTER

August 1, County Community Wildfire Protection Plan  
August 4, Ute ladies'-tresses orchid and tallgrass field trip  
August 28, Ouzel Fire Regeneration Hike  
September 7, Community Post-Fire Effect Stories  
September 10, Small and Colorful World of Lichens

### NORTHERN CHAPTER

Through Mid-October, Wildflower Walks

**FIELD TRIPS INSIDE, pages 3-6**