



# *The Acorn*

*Serving the South Sound Chapter of the  
Washington Native Plant Society*

*Winter 2012*

## **WNPS South Sound Chapter Plant Sales**

Our second Fall Native Plant Sale took place on October 8 at the Capital Museum Coach House, the site of our Spring 2011 sale. Although the volume of sales did not reach that of the Spring sale, it was still a success. Gross sales were \$3,212 with expenses of \$1,832. Most importantly, our customers seemed to enjoy the sale and look forward to the next. We were also pleased to offer, for the first time, native plant books sold for WNPS by Richard Tinsley of the Central Puget Sound Chapter.

The plant sale, as all our activities, was a success because of the hard work of our volunteers, especially Bonnie Blessing-Earle who headed up the effort.

We thank all those who helped (see the Chair's Report "Volunteer Appreciation" for a list of our volunteers). You were great!

We have set the date for our second **Spring Native Plant Sale, April 28, 2012, 9 am to 3 pm.** We will again be at the Capital Museum Coach House, 211 21st Ave SW in Olympia. Planning sessions will start in January. If you would like to be a part of this Spring sale, contact Bonnie Blessing-Earle ([bonnie.blessing@gmail.com](mailto:bonnie.blessing@gmail.com)) or Bill Brookreson ([b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net)) to volunteer. Watch the monthly updates for more information.



## **Chapter Year Begins with a Picnic**

This year, the South Sound Chapter Board decided to try something different, a joint meeting of the Olympia and Tacoma groups for a potluck picnic to kick off the program year. We held the meeting/picnic on Monday, September 12, at Powderworks Park in DuPont.

Besides offering clean, modern picnic facilities, the Powderworks Park offered two other advantages: it is centrally located and, it has a Garry Oak Preservation Area for members to explore.

In addition to meeting and eating, we had a plant identification contest (complete with prizes) to help establish a plant list for the park. Attendance, on the wonderful late summer evening was about 25 people. We had a good time! (Photo from picnic appears on the mailing panel of this newsletter.)

# South Sound Chapter Activities

## Puyallup Fair Booth By Reba Olsen

Every year for three weeks in September, we do outreach for WNPS at the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup. It is very enjoyable to make contact with fair attendees who are interested in native plants, and hopefully we encourage some of them to join WNPS, including the South Sound Chapter. People who stop by our booth are mostly from Thurston, Pierce and King Counties, but also from other counties. Thanks to Anna Thurston for planning and setting up the booth and for arranging the popular display of native plants throughout the NW Outdoors building. Thanks to Ingrid Wachtler, Woodbrook Native Plant Nursery, for supplying the plants; John Neorr for garnering volunteers; and Byrna Klavano for checking booth supplies on a regular basis. We also appreciate those volunteers who signed up to help out at the WNPS booth (See the Chair's Report "Volunteer Appreciation" for a list).



Photo by  
John Neorr

### Our 35-year Members

As the Washington Native Plant Society celebrates 35 years as an organization, it is appropriate that we celebrate those members of our chapter who became members in 1976 and are still members today: Helen Engle, Lee Fellenberg, Betty Jo and Jim Fitzgerald, Helen Hepp, Cathy L. Maxwell, Louis Messmer, and Jim and Dottie Riley. We are no more than our members make us. Thank you.

### Plant List Project

Sharpen your identification skills; help to assemble and update plant lists for the parks and natural areas of Pierce and Thurston Counties. We have plant lists that are relatively complete for Bresemann Forest and Swan Creek Natural Area. We have good starts on lists for the Tacoma Nature Center, the Puget Creek Natural Area, Ashford County Park, Powderworks Park in DuPont and the Point Defiance Natural Area. Our ultimate goal is to have good lists on the WNPS website for botanists. If you would like a copy of any of these lists in their current form to add to or, even better, would like to start another park or natural area, contact Bill Brookreson at [b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net).

## More So. Sound Chapter Activities!

### WNPS Display Project

Shutter bugs!! Byrna Klavano needs some of your photos. We plan to have a game for our booth at the Puyallup Fair. We will match photos of flowers to their fruit/seeds or leaves to their flowers. Please look through your archives for suitable close ups. If you have digital photos, you may email to Byrna. If you have negatives, please make 4x6 prints and mail them to Byrna or mail the negatives and she'll return after printing. Anyone interested in helping design the game, contact Byrna Klavano, 7616 131st St Ct E, Puyallup, WA 98373 or [byrna@comcast.net](mailto:byrna@comcast.net), 253-536-7469.

### Prairie Appreciation Day May 12, 2012

Today, only three percent of our native prairies remain and Thurston County is blessed with some of these. The Nature Conservancy began work to conserve these fragile habitats of the South Puget Sound region nearly two decades ago. In 2011, The Nature Conservancy transferred this program to the Center for Natural Lands Management, which, along with its partners, is continuing the TNC's conservation efforts in South Puget Sound. This year we will mark the 17th annual Prairie Appreciation Day on May 12, 2012, to celebrate those efforts. Watch our monthly update as details become available or visit the website at [www.southsoundprairies.org/](http://www.southsoundprairies.org/).



## Hikes and Field Trips

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We are currently working on putting together hikes for the spring season. If you are interested in leading a hike or field trip to one of your favorite places, contact Cyndy Dillon at [cpdillongh@comcast.net](mailto:cpdillongh@comcast.net) or Bill Brookreson at [b.brookreson@comcast.net](mailto:b.brookreson@comcast.net). Do not think you need to be an "expert" to lead a hike. We will get you the needed paperwork and publicize the information in the monthly updates. Watch the updates for upcoming hikes and field trips.

## Conservations Issues

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### A Conservation Committee? Why?

By Bill Brookreson

For those who, like me, have more grey hair than brown, the "good old days," as far as the environment was concerned, were not so "good." We had rivers that caught fire, air that we could hardly breathe, forests that were disappearing, and people being poisoned by mining wastes and chemical dumping (like the Love Canal). As a country, we decided that was not acceptable. It wasn't a partisan issue. Under Richard Nixon, we established the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and began dealing with endangered species. Both Republicans and Democrats helped move the environmental ball ahead. Certainly, there was always a small minority that opposed the changes but up until now, they were just that, a small minority.

The current economic downturn, whose root causes have little or nothing to do with environment, has brought all those environmental gains under attack. The attacks are too numerous to list. We have calls for the abolition of the EPA. Bills have been introduced posing an unprecedented attack on our parks, refuges, forests, monuments and wildlife habitat in the form of drilling and mining rights and forest harvesting. There are many examples. HR 1581 would eliminate the Forest Service's roadless rule which protects 58 million acres of forest land and 6.7 million acres of BLM land. HR 1505, the "National Security and Federal Lands Protection Act," would turn operational control of all federal land within 100 miles of the borders (Mexican, Canadian and maritime) to the Department of Homeland Security and exempt them from many of the land protection requirements. All these and many more are put forward in the name of "jobs" but are, in reality, an attempt to roll back the progress of the last 50 years for the economic benefit of the few.

Why do we (and all those organizations that value our environment) need a more active Conservation Committee? There are so many issues that one person really cannot keep abreast of all the issues. We can speak as an organization, but nothing is more important than having knowledgeable members who are current on the issues who speak up as well. The more voices that speak out, the greater the chances of success.

Being effective isn't easy. We need a Conservation Committee in this chapter (and other chapters) that has several members who track a narrow range of issues on a regular basis and convey timely information to the larger group and to the membership. To be effective, we don't need a lot of meetings, just a lot of focus and caring for what is being threatened. Be a part of that. If you are interested, contact me or Cyndy Dillon at emails in the newsletter. The time to act and get better organized is now, before it is too late.

## Volunteer Appreciation 2011 by Cyndy Dillon

Without our volunteers, we would accomplish little as a chapter. When we set out to make a list of all those that have so generously given of their time, it is quite long. We want to express our thanks to all these and our deepest apologies to any that we have missed. We welcome continued participation to 2012 and hope others will be able to volunteer as well. Opportunities abound!

**Chapter Board and Committees:** Cyndy Dillon, Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Sue Summers, Seth Swanson, Byrna Klavano, John Neorr, Bill Brookreson, Lee Fellenberg, Reba Olsen and Jane Ostericher.

**Meeting refreshments:** Pat and Dan Montague, Byrna Klavano, Cyndy Dillon, Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Reba Olsen and Karen Laing.

**Members who have given meeting presentations:** John Neorr, Scott Hanson, Erica Guttman, Chris Earle and Ted Thomas.

**Newsletter and Updates:** Bill Brookreson, Lee Fellenberg, Reba Olsen, and Margaret Purcell.

**Website and mailings:** Lee Fellenberg

**Puyallup Fair:** John Neorr, Byrna Klavano, Anna Thurston, Howard Langeveld, Diana Willies, Diana Cole, Sherry Loseke, Ruth Ihlenfeldt, Carolyn Buck, June Coloff, Pam Mullinax, Steve Beckstead, Doug Gresham, Helen Engle, Mary Best, Dan Fear, Connie and Rob Mayor, Linda Silber, Jessica Daw, Curt

Hebron, Cathy Orr, Candie and Pete Wade, Jackie O'Riley, Jane Ely, Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Regina Johnson, Karen Kiehlmeier, Cyndy Dillon, Bill Brookreson, Sue Butkus, Susan Colton and Reba Olsen.

**Spring Plant Sale:** Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Chris Earle, Seth Swanson, Bill Brookreson, Byrna Klavano, John Neorr, Reba Olsen, Lee Fellenberg, Sharon Berquist-Moody, Cyndy Dillon, Vanessa Rudy, Sue Summers, Dan Montague, Pat Montague and Lori Robertson.

**Fall Plant Sale:** Bonnie Blessing-Earle, Bill Brookreson, Nancy Moore, Lee Fellenberg, Reba Olsen, Sue Summers, Cyndy Dillon, Pat Montague, Dan Montague, Jane Ely, Jeanne Ponzetti, Lori Robertson, Richard Tinsley, Mary Henry, John Neorr and Kit Ellis.

**Restoration Projects:** Sharon Berquist -Moody, Dwight Berquist-Moody, Bob Wadsworth, Bill Brookreson, Cyndy Dillon, Bonnie Blessing-Earle, John Neorr, Darrell Dobson, Reba Olsen, Mary Henry, Trish Willebrand, Luis Yañez, Lin Livingston and Ian Riley.

**Field Trips Leaders:** Kevin Head, Bill Brookreson, John Neorr and Chris Earle.

**Plant List Contributors:** Mary Sue Gee, Bill Brookreson, Catherine Hovanic, Fred Stark, Scott Hanson, Ben Cody, Reba Olsen, John Neorr, Cyndy Dillon, and David Wilderman.

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## More Plant and Seed Sales

### Central Puget Sound Chapter's Annual Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 12, 2012, 10 am–4 pm

The Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS will hold its annual Spring Plant Sale again this year at the Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St., Bellevue. Although the plant list has not been finalized, the CPS Chapter's annual Spring Plant Sale always has an outstanding selection of native trees, shrubs and other native plants. The plant list will be posted on the WNPS website. Serious native plant gardeners are advised to come early for the best selection of native plants and plant books. Shoppers are asked to bring their own boxes or trays.

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## Workshops and Conferences

Erica Guttman, WSU and the Native Plant Salvage Foundation are again offering a series of excellent classes this winter. Advanced registration is required for most events. Call (360) 867-2166 or email [nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com) to sign up and receive directions and details.

**“Winter Twig Identification Field Workshop,”** Sunday, January 22, 2012. Erica Guttman will offer her excellent workshop. Choose from two sessions: 10 am to 12:30 pm. or 1 to 3:30 pm. This hands-on class will teach you to identify our common deciduous native shrubs and trees in their leafless, winter form! Walk a nature trail with a small group for personalized help learning this unique skill. Fee is \$5. Registration is limited and advanced registration is required.

*continued on page 7*

## More Workshops and Conferences

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“**Naturescaping for Water & Wildlife,**” Thursday, Feb 16, 6 to 9:15 pm and Saturday, May 5, 10 am to 5 pm, Olympia. Learn design ideas to attract more birds, butterflies, amphibians, and beneficial insects to home landscapes while reducing maintenance headaches and protecting water resources. Other topics will include minimizing lawn, hardscaping ideas, and drought-tolerant plants. Participants will be given informational handouts and will also have the opportunity to purchase a variety of books discussing “naturescaping” in the Pacific Northwest. The class is free, but advance registration is required as space is limited. For details and registration call 360-867-2166 or email [nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com).

“**Beyond Landscaping: Marine & Riparian Revegetation,**” Thursday, March 22. Basics: 6 to 9:15 pm. This free workshop where you’ll get all the details you need to plan and carry out a restoration project.

“**Save the Sound: Build a Rain Garden,**” Thursday, April 19. Basics: 6:30-8 pm; 8 to 8:45 pm, optional hands-on practice. Join Erica for a free, hands-on workshop where you’ll get all the details you need to design and install a beautiful rain garden that will manage your home’s drainage while also protecting our local waterways. Sponsored by Stream Team.

“**Meet the Trees of Washington**” Field Class, Saturday, June 9, 10 am to 4 pm. Learn about the wonders of our lowland native forests as well as other South Sound ecosystems. Learn hands-on plant identification of native trees, shrubs, ferns and flowers. Sponsored by Thurston County Stream Team.

### ***Washington’s Best Wildflower Hikes* by Charles Gurche, Westcliffe Publishers, 2004, \$19.95**



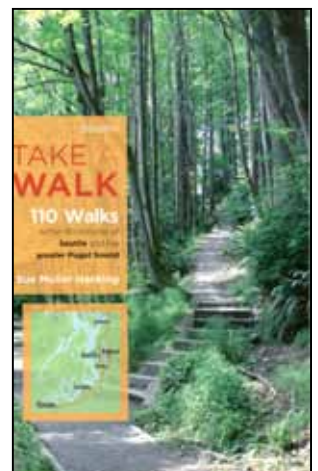
Whenever the rains and dreariness of January and February begin to take their toll on my psyche, I look outside and dream about the Spring and the chance to get out again and enjoy all the floral beauty of our great Northwest. I begin making the plans for the wonderful places we can go and the glorious blooms we can see as soon as the weather allows. One of the wonderful books for dreaming and planning such times is *Washington’s Best Wildflower Hikes*. Spokane’s Charles Gurche has assembled a selection of fifty wildflower hikes that will have you itching to get outside.

The hikes are separated into five geographic regions - Olympic National Park, North Cascades, Central Cascades and Mt. Rainier National Park, South Cascades and Eastern Washington. Gurche is an outstanding photographer. The book contains some beautiful photos of the scenery to be found on the hikes and many pictures of native plants telling about them and when they can be expected to be seen blooming. The maps are clear and easy to read. Each individual write-up includes trail rating, length, location with driving directions, elevation, bloom period (and peak bloom) and the contact for the land manager. Appendix A compiles in a chart all fifty sites with not only blooming periods but also trail difficulty (easy, moderate, or difficult). Even if you never take one or more of the hikes, you’ll find it a delightful read.

### ***Take a Walk: 110 Walks within 30 minutes of Seattle and the Greater Puget Sound* by Sue Muller Hacking, Sasquatch Publishers, 2011, \$17.95.**

For those who want a selection of walks closer to home, Sue Muller Hacking’s 3rd edition of *Take a Walk: 110 Walks within 30 minutes of Seattle and the Greater Puget Sound* may be your cup of tea. Hacking has a chapter of hikes “in and around Tacoma” and “in and around Olympia.” It contains a number of our favorites like Bresemann Forest, Chambers Lake and the Nature Center in Tacoma and Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Woodland Trail and Priest Point Park in Olympia. The book does a good job with trail access, length and difficulty. The quality of the black and white pictures is disappointing.

For those who want more information on the flora of the parks, the book’s level of information is also uneven. In spite of that, the book is a worthwhile reference to 110 walks and a useful resource to anyone who wants to get outside and may have only a limited amount of available time.



# Volunteer Opportunities

## Native Plant Salvage Events (Thurston Co.)

All salvages begin at the site at 9:30 am. Volunteers then move to the holding beds after lunch (between 12:30 and 1:00 pm). For weekend salvage dates, hot vegetarian lunch and other snacks are provided; and they welcome those who join for the afternoon plant-potting shift. Native Plant Salvage Project staff will send directions after you sign up:

**Sunday, January 29**

**Saturday, February 4**

**Monday, February 20 (President's Day)**

**Friday, February 24**

**Sunday, March 4**

**Saturday, March 17**

To volunteer, contact the WSU Native Plant Salvage Project & Native Plant Salvage Foundation, 360-867-2166 or [nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com](mailto:nativeplantsalvage@gmail.com).

## MLK Service Day - Back to the Land: Kaiser Restoration/ Stewardship Field Day Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

This is a joint project with the Capitol Land Trust, South Sound Green, Thurston County Conservation District and WSU Master Gardeners. The event will include:

- A revegetation project - planting native trees and shrubs and removing invasive plants
- Pacific Northwest Ethnobotany Education Station with teas and craft activities,
- Native American Storytellers for kids (and adults!),
- Native Plant Identification
- Water Quality Testing with South Sound GREEN
- Birding Site with Guides!

Check <http://tinyurl.com/7hmx5f6> for details. Preregistration is required.

## WNPS South Sound Chapter Budget 2012

	Budget	Budget	YTD Through				
	2012	2011	11/7/2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
<b>Income</b>							
Chapter Rebates	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$973.00	\$1,197.00	\$1,204.00	\$867.00	\$1,007.00
Donations	\$200	\$250	\$70.00	\$1,045.00	\$306.10	\$84.16	\$179.88
Plant Sale Revenue	\$7,000	\$3,000	\$7,168.00	\$1,927.00			
Sales (Other)	\$600	\$400	\$610.00	\$540.00	\$744.00	\$457.00	\$111.59
Study Weekend	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,370.15	\$0.00
Misc Revenue	\$25	\$20	\$47.39	\$96.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.96
Total Revenue	\$9,025	\$4,870	\$8,868.39	\$4,805.00	\$2,254.10	\$14,778.31	\$1,300.43
<b>Expenses</b>							
Field Trips	\$100	\$100	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gift Memberships	\$70	\$70	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Outreach	\$400	\$250	\$0.00	\$201.09	\$360.09	\$301.00	\$286.17
Newsletter/Website	\$400	\$400	\$377.76	\$298.48	\$745.93	\$359.68	\$209.32
Plant Sale Inventory	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$3,243.64	\$1,121.65	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Inventory (Other)	\$500	\$300	\$664.18	\$260.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$390.00
Chapter Programs	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$406.80	\$1,245.95	\$1,006.74	\$1,363.76	\$565.46
Restoration	\$50	\$50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$174.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Study Weekend	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,857.42	\$0.00
Misc Expenses	\$500	\$500	\$0.00	\$744.37	\$598.53	\$433.32	\$3.58
Total Expenses	\$6,220	\$4,870	\$4,692.38	\$3,896.54	\$3,185.29	\$12,615.18	\$1,454.53
Surplus (Deficit)	\$2,805	\$0	\$4,176.01	\$908.46	(\$931.19)	\$2,163.13	(\$154.10)

# Chapter & State Contacts

**Chair – Cyndy Dillon**

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**Vice Chair (Pierce County meeting)**

**Jane Ostericher**

[vicechair.pierce@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:vicechair.pierce@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

**Vice Chair (Thurston County meeting)**

**Bonnie Blessing-Earle**

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**Treasurer – Sue Summers**

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**Immediate Past Chair – Vacant**

**Chapter Botanist – Vacant**

**Conservation Committee Chair - Vacant**

**Field Trip Committee Chair - Vacant**

**Editorial Committee Chair - Bill Brookreson**

[newsletterediting@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:newsletterediting@southsoundchapterwnps.org)

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**Publicity Committee Chair - Vacant**

**Volunteers Committee Chair - Reba Olsen**

**Chapter Web Manager - Lee Fellenberg**

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**WNPS Statewide:**

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**Washington Native Plant Society South Sound Chapter**

[www.southsoundchapterwnps.org](http://www.southsoundchapterwnps.org)

**Washington Native Plant Society State Chapter**

[www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org) 206-527-3210



## WNPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter Affiliation

- Central Puget Sound (Seattle)  
 Central Washington (Yakima, Ellensburg)  
 Columbia Basin (Tri-Cities)  
 Koma Kulshan (Bellingham)  
 NE Washington (Spokane)  
 Okanogan  
 Olympic Peninsula  
 Salal (Mt. Vernon, Skagit Valley)  
 San Juan Islands
- South Sound (Olympia, Tacoma)  
 Wenatchee Valley  
 At-Large  
 Palouse (inactive)  
 Suksdorfia (inactive)
- Each membership includes affiliation with one chapter. Add \$5.00 for each additional chapter.

### WNPS POSTER

“Wildflowers Across Washington”  
 A beautiful 24” x 36” full-color poster featuring 36 native species, \$8 (members \$6)  
 Shipping \$2.50 each poster

### Membership Category

- \$35 Individual Rate  
 \$45 Family  
 \$65 Club/Institution  
 \$20 Budget  
 \$50-99 WNPS Friend
- \$100-499 WNPS Special Friend  
 \$500 WNPS Best Friend  
 \$1,000 WNPS Sustaining  
 \$5,000 WNPS Patron

### ENCLOSED ARE:

My dues: Please Sign me up! \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional Chapters (\$5 each) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$8 for each poster (\$6 members) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shipping (\$2.50/poster) \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to WNPS and mail to:  
 Washington Native Plant Society, 6310 NE 74th St., Ste 215E  
 Seattle, WA 98115



**South Sound Chapter WNPS**

**6220 N 50th St**

**Tacoma WA 98407-2119**



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post-consumer fiber recycled paper.*

*The mission of the Washington Native Plant Society is to promote the appreciation and conservation of Washington's native plants and their habitats through study, education, and advocacy.*



## Chapter Meetings

**Meeting Times and Locations:** We are very pleased to offer another series of interesting and educational speakers for our winter and spring meetings. Chapter meetings are 7-9 pm. Meetings are normally scheduled on the second Monday (Olympia) and the second Wednesday (Tacoma) of each month from September through May. Meetings consist of a quick review of local items and announcements, and a presentation lasting approximately an hour. Programs are geared for all levels of botanical knowledge. Unless otherwise noted all Tacoma meetings are at Tacoma Nature Center, 1919 South Tyler Street, Tacoma. All Olympia meetings are at Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 21st Avenue SW, Olympia. Meetings are free and open to the public. Please contact John Neorr at [presentations@southsoundchapterwnps.org](mailto:presentations@southsoundchapterwnps.org) if you have a for a future presentation.

### Wednesday, February 8 (Tacoma), Luis Yañez “Environmental Stewardship from Our Next Generation of Leaders”

The Washington Conservation Corps works with young adults to restore Washington’s natural areas, improve its trails and parks, and train the next generation of leaders. The program operates under the Department of Ecology with grant support from AmeriCorps and the Gates Foundation. WCC employs 18-25-year-olds in environmental stewardship jobs and provides formal and on-the-job training. This talk will give a history of the WCC and will discuss the work performed by the boots-on-the-ground and the importance of field-based learning.

Luis Yañez is a Washington Conservation Corps supervisor for the city of Tacoma. He has worked for the Department of Ecology for three years and has served as an AmeriCorps member in the Conservation Corps for two years. Luis took part in the early restoration efforts of the Nisqually delta. As part of the WCC, he has responded to natural disasters in Mississippi, and in Lewis County and Spokane in Washington. In addition, Luis is a Pierce county volunteer search and rescue responder, a University of Washington Rare Care volunteer, and an amateur rock climber. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Oregon.

### Monday, February 13 (Olympia), Film “Green Fire, Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time”

Join us for a screening of the 73-minute film, *Green Fire!* Enjoy the first full-length, high-definition documentary film ever made about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold and his environmental legacy! *Green Fire* shares highlights from his extraordinary career, explaining how he shaped conservation and the modern environmental movement. It also illustrates how Leopold’s vision of a community that cares about both people and land continues to inform and inspire people across the country and around the world, highlighting modern projects that put Leopold’s land ethic in action in a multitude of ways.

### Monday, March 12 (Olympia) Charlie Crisafulli “Mount St. Helens 1980-2011: Survival and Revival of Life after a Major Volcanic Eruption”

The 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens dramatically altered forest, meadow, riverine, and lake environments over a 250 square-mile area. The explosive eruption reconfigured the landscape and killed or greatly reduced the types and numbers of plants and animals that had been present before the eruption. Charlie’s talk will show how over the past 30+ years, Mount St. Helens has clearly demonstrated the remarkable resiliency of life as a diverse assemblage of plants, animals, and fungi has successfully colonized the once barren, gray landscape. He will show the various and unexpected ways in which numerous plants and animals survived the big blast, describe the pace and pattern that organisms invaded the new landscape, and discuss the complex ecological interactions that developed among species.

Charlie Crisafulli is a Research Ecologist with the USDA, Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, Olympia Forestry Sciences Laboratory. He has been studying the ecology of animals and plants in the Mount St. Helens volcanic landscape and in adjacent old-growth forests for 31 years. His primary research themes are processes of succession (dispersal, establishment, population dynamics, community structure, and species interactions), and expanding lessons from Mount St. Helens to volcanoes in other regions of the world such as South America and Asia.

### Wednesday, March 14 (Tacoma), film “Green Fire, Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time”

See the description above under February 13 in Olympia.

February 2012

March 2012

**Monday, April 9 (Olympia), Jesse Barham**

**“Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Estuary Restoration:  
The Continuing Evolution of the Nisqually Estuary”**

April 2012

The Refuge, working with key partners, Ducks Unlimited and the Nisqually Indian Tribe, restored tidal waters and natural processes to 762 acres of the Nisqually Estuary in 2009 by completely removing 4.5 miles of the 100-year-old Brown Farm Dike. Over the three years since the restoration of the tides, the site has been in a state of transition. This talk will cover various aspects of restoration implementation; fish, wildlife, and ecosystem response; and highlight the tidally-influenced floodplain forest restoration, salt-marsh vegetation response, and factors influencing vegetation community development in the restoration area.

Jesse Barham has been a Restoration Biologist at Nisqually NWR since the spring of 2009; working on the estuary restoration project, boardwalk construction, and management of freshwater wetlands. Prior to coming to the Refuge he worked as a Restoration Biologist with the Nisqually Indian Tribe and has 10 years of experience working on wetland restoration projects. He is a graduate of The Evergreen State College in Olympia.

**Wednesday, April 11 (Tacoma)**

**To be announced.**

**Wednesday, May 9 (Tacoma) Carol White**

**“Fore! Native and Non-native on the Golf Course”**

January 2012

Carol R.C. White has 8 years experience in various fields of the horticulture industry, and is the current horticulturalist for The Golf Club at Newcastle, WA. The reach of her responsibilities on the property varies from houseplants to annuals, to a native plant garden. She will share with us the successes (and sometimes failures) of landscape projects for the club, and learning to balance “aesthetics with conscience.” Also, she will discuss the accomplishment of the golf club becoming a certified bird sanctuary through Audubon International, and her role in the process. To round-out the evening, she will touch on steps the club is taking to lessen its impact on the local environment.

**Monday, May 14 (Olympia), Kevin Head**

**“Wild Flowers of the Italian Alps”**

In summer months the northern Italian Alps are filled with wildflowers. Italy has preserved its high meadows and craggy peaks in national parks and nature preserves. Come see photographs and learn about the unique ecology of this area. Kevin Head will present slides from his 2011 walking tour of the Dolomites, the Rhaetian Alps, and the Graian Alps.

Kevin is a South Sound native plant enthusiast having led field trips for the chapter for nine years. He has hiked extensively through the mountain west and desert southwest and has explored wildflower meadows in Norway, the UK and Greece. He is a teacher for the North Thurston Public Schools working in his 24rd year at the District’s Alternative High School.

**Native Plant Appreciation Week, April 29-May 5, 2012**

Our eighth annual Native Plant Appreciation Week will be celebrated this year April 29 through May 5, 2012. Because of budget constraints, the printing of posters has been scaled back. Watch the South Sound Chapter monthly updates and the NPAW section on the WNPS website for chapter and statewide activities.

**WNPS Study Weekend 2012, June 29- July 1, Walla Walla**

Native Plant Study Weekend 2012 will be hosted by the Columbia Basin Chapter of the Native Plant Society in Walla Walla, June 29-July 1. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy the beautiful and unique flora of south-eastern Washington. Watch for more details and sign-up materials in the next *Douglasia*.

**Botany Washington, July 6-8, 2012, Kittitas County**

Watch *Douglasia* and the *Summer Acorn* for details.

WNPS State News