

## **Summary of the Board Meeting Minutes Of April 5, 2008**

**Membership welcome gift:** Based on response to survey, Charlie Turner created a “thank you gift” bookmark for new members and renewing members. A bookmark useful for marketing purposes to prompt membership was also developed.

**Colorado Environmental Film Festival support:** Continued discussion for 2008 support showed Board still favored some relationship. More information to come.

**Future Board Meeting Locations:** Using speaker phones for future meeting should be tried, instead of using a Skype internet connection.

Committee Chairs reported the following:

### **Education/Outreach:**

- The final event for this year is a program at Lookout Mountain Nature Center’s Wildflower Festival in June.
- The Boulder Chapter is going to conduct Native Plant Master courses for the CSU Extension Service in 2008. Four people will help give 2 courses. Wider participation is welcomed for teachers for the 2009 season. We hope to be able to create a rotation of training and new teachers to sustain giving this course in the future. Volunteers are welcomed to contact Megan Bowes.
- Society programs on Wildflowers or Landscaping are available to members for use in other venues. These are easy to use by just reviewing the images and notes. Check these out from Megan.

### **Field Studies:**

- Four projects will be offered this season – details are online:
  - *Botrychium campestre* (Prairie Moonwort) at Bonny Reservoir State Park (4 people signed up already)
  - Mt. Zirkel wetlands inventory,
  - and 2 trips for DBG and CNAP monitoring efforts:
    - *Penstemon penlandii* survey near Kremmling
    - *Oenothera acutissima* inventory in Moffat County
- Leo Bruederle also mentioned the ongoing work on *Penstemon degeneri* that Carol English and other UCD students are continuing. This work was begun as a CoNPS Field Studies initiative two years ago.
- Steve Popovich led discussion about “public” access on trips to sensitive species sites. It was agreed that all participants will be required to sign CoNPS waiver form, giving their name, address and phone number before entering the sites. A suggestion was made that GPS equipment be prohibited. Steve will update Bylaws for Field Studies when this is completed and forward to Al Schneider for review and Board approval.
- Future field studies will be advertised on web site, in newsletter (April issue), and to Chapter presidents.

### **Horticulture/Restoration:**

- A revision of all documents is underway; the old ones have been pulled from the web site. The Secretary will keep current copy in file. Outdated copies will be retired in past business files. The recommended vendor list is being updated. Front Range plant list, recommended landscaping choices, is undergoing revision and other areas of State need this kind of publication developed. Involve other chapters. Using a state map with link to lists is the goal. A list of undesirable plants is needed. Currently we have available a publication from Colorado Weed Management Association, "Garden Smart Colorado", a guide for non-invasive plant alternatives for commonly sold invasive exotic ornamentals used in gardening. E/O is using these at events for \$1 donation.

### **Membership:**

- Linda Smith and Eric Lane created lists of members' interests in volunteering for the Society. Each committee received hard copies and electronic copies for contact. This was a first and warmly received by Board members.

### **Newsletter:**

- The new printing company is a great improvement. Automatic addressing eliminates work for Kim.
- 15% percentage of newsletters are emailed.
- A special edition is now possible because of reduced production costs. The Board agreed that the 2008 Annual Meeting would be announced in a separate mailing.

Issues Published: Feb, May, Sept, Dec (approx) (1/2 page or about 450 words)

Deadlines: 1/15, 4/15, 8/15, 11/15

Call for Workshops: 4/15      Publish Workshops: Sept

Call for Field Trips: 11/15      Publish Field Trips: Feb

Field Studies Publish: May

### **Research Grants:**

- The results of research funded by CoNPS research grant recipients have been published in scholarly journals and several authors have graciously acknowledged CoNPS. Linda Kothera's research has resulted in articles on *Physaria bellii* in *Biological Conservation* (November, 2007) and *Conservation Genetics* (September, 2007). Availability of grants was advertised in national journals and resulted in an excellent number of projects.
- CONPS Grant Recipients 2008
  - Steinkamp Awards:
    - Dr. Lara Kueppers and Dr. Ramona Butz. University of California, Merced.
    - Global Observation Research Initiative in Alpine Environments (GLORIA) at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) \$1,000,
    - Krissa A. Skogen (Doctoral student), University of Connecticut. Primroses, pollinators and practicality: Identifying land use priorities by the effect of habitat fragmentation on pollinator

declines and plant reproduction. \$800.

○ Marr Awards:

- Denise Wilson (MS student), University of Colorado, Denver. *Epipactis gigantea* - Pollination Syndromes at three Colorado elevations. \$600
- Genevieve Walden (MS student), San Francisco State University. Phylogenetic analysis of sectional and species level relationships within *Phacelia* (Boraginaceae) inferred from chloroplast *ndhF* and nuclear rITS sequence data. \$500
- Ben R. Grady (Doctoral student), University of Wisconsin. Speciation and Edaphic Endemism in *Eriogonum* (Polygonaceae): A Molecular Systematic Approach. \$500.

**Sales:**

- Linda Smith is in transition and training with Denise Wilson.

**Workshops:**

- Ann Henson is in transition with Mary Ellen Ford. For the 2007-2008 season there are 3 remaining workshops in the Front Range area with full registrations. There are 2 workshops in SW and Plateau Chapters.
- New workshops for the 2008-2009 season are being solicited. Any suggestions of presenters and topics are welcomed. A “Call for workshops” will be in April issue *Aquilegia*. This will become an annual posting. Announcement will be in January issue each year. If someone misses the workshop, no mailings of workshop handouts will be done unless presenter opts to prepare a package. Presenters will be encouraged to put portions of their workshops online. The first new workshop is scheduled: “Don’t Know Much About....Grasses” for October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in Longmont. The Boulder County Extension Office is being explored as a new location for workshops.
- University of Colorado Denver (UCD) can now offer CE credit for CoNPS workshops, even if the workshops are not held on campus.
- The Administrative Assistant will help in the new workshop season by taking registrations and payments. She will also email/mail instructions to participants, which will be sent to her by Chair/presenter, and she will solicit volunteers to help at workshops.
- Need for digital projector or sharing was discussed. If location is at UCD, Ft. Collins. or West Slope, projectors are available by sharing.
- Budget is for supplies, refreshments, speaker fees, rental, etc.
- Previous Board decision was for a committee of each Chapter and Chair. Need volunteers from each chapter. Denver Chapter will have Leo Bruederle.

Agenda Items:

Joint Meeting with other Native Plant Societies: The Administrative Assistant from the Native Plant Society of New Mexico suggested a joint Native Plant Annual Meeting with CoNPS, and the Arizona Native Plant Society. Several days might be planned. Board

thought the idea worth exploring with NPSNM and AZNPS and the Utah Native Plant Society. A 2010 date was suggested. The CoNPS Co-Presidents will pursue discussion.

### Chapter Reports:

#### **Boulder:**

- No Boulder Chapter members have volunteered to be the next president. The Board should consider what to do if after three months there are still no interested members when Deby steps down, which will be between May, 2008.
- The Boulder Chapter is teaming up with Wildlands Restoration Volunteers for a beginning Botany Training for June 7. This is a continuation of collaborative efforts between the two groups. John Giordenango spoke to the chapter last month and each group should get some new members as a result.

#### **Denver- Metro:**

- A new site is being selected for chapter meetings as Denver Botanic Gardens is being remodeled after Dec. 2008. From January 2009 until remodeling is completed, the meetings will be in the new location. The field trip for the May meeting was selected.
- The Denver-Metro chapter is looking for a new co-president next season to assist Vickey Trammel.

#### **Plateau:**

- Preparation for annual meeting is proceeding. Holiday Inn contract is done. Final speaker selection is in progress.

#### **Southwest:**

- The Southwest Chapter is presenting two workshops this spring and will have about 16 field trips this summer. 35 people attended the February potluck social and everyone agreed that there should be at least two such programs each year. The next will be in the fall of 2008.