



NEWSLETTER

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JULY & AUGUST 2012

NORTHERN NEVADA HAPPENINGS

FIELD TRIPS

It is suggested that you check the web site [nvnps.org] before the dates of the trips to see if changes or updates have been posted. Bring plenty of water, lunch, hiking gear, appropriate clothing, wide brimmed hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

JULY 28-29 - A tentative overnight trip to Sonora Pass. Several members are researching the possibility of an overnight trip to Sonora Pass. There is no further information available at this time. An alternate day trip destination of Carson Pass / Winnemucca Lake may be inserted on this weekend should the preferred Sonora Pass trip not take place. Check the NVNPS web site as the date gets closer to see if this trip is finalized. For further information you can contact John Weiser at 775-331-4485, any time after 5:00pm.

AUGUST 4th - Osgood Swamp. Osgood swamp is located near Echo Peak in Eldorado County, CA. This is a unique sphagnum bog habitat and contains an interesting assemblage of species. For further information check the web site listed below.

http://biohere.com/natural_areas/california/EI_Dorado_County/osgood_swamp.php

We will be getting an early start for this trip. Reno area people should plan on meeting at the Pink Scolari's at 8165 South Virginia Street by 6:30am. We will leave by 6:35am and meet the Carson City group at 7:15am at the Forest Service offices at 1536 Carson Street. We plan on leaving this final meeting spot by 7:20am. Parking at the Osgood Swamp sight is limited so we will scout the area for suitable alternative parking close by and may have to shuttle members to the sight. Further information concerning this trip will be posted to the NVNPS web site four weeks prior to the trip date. Bring boots or shoes you can get wet. For further information you can contact leader Tom Schuster at 690-2953 or John Weiser at 775-331-4485, any time after 5:00pm.

AUGUST 11th - Trip to the meadows on the upper slopes of Mount Rose. This trip will explore some of the upper elevation meadow habitats on Mount Rose. We will access the meadows via the US Forest Service access road to Relay Peak. We plan to meet at the large Mount Rose trail head, parking lot. This lot is on the west side of the Mount Rose Hwy summit. Be at the staging area by 9:00am at the latest, we will be leave shortly afterward. It is a short drive to the meadows through locked gates so be on time. It is suggested that you carpool as much as possible before heading up to the pass, since the parking lot gets very congested on the weekends. High clearance vehicles preferred for the drive up the access road. For further information you can contact leader Elizabeth Bergstrom at 775-884-8154 or John Weiser at 775-331-4485, any time after 5:00pm.

AUGUST - 18th Trip to Carson Pass and Lake Winnemucca. [It is possible this trip may be advanced to July 28th should the need arise. Please check the NVNPS web site before the July 28th date to see which trip is planned for that weekend]. The purpose of this trip is to seek out the Sierra Primrose-*Primula suffrutescens* for those who missed it on last years excursion. The trail from Carson Pass to Winnemucca Lake is approximately 4.5 miles round trip and gains 500 feet of elevation. There is a \$5 day use fee for each vehicle at Carson Pass parking lot. Fee waived for Inter-agency Pass and El Dorado NF Annual Pass holders. From Reno, meet at the Pink Scolari's at 8165 South Virginia Street at 7:50am. We will depart at 8:00am to link up with the Carson area members at the Forest Service offices at 1536 Carson Street by 8:45am. Our goal is to be at the Carson Pass Visitors Center by 10:00am. For further information you can contact leader Elizabeth Bergstrom at 775-884-8154 or John Weiser at 775-331-4485, any time after 5:00pm.

AUGUST 25th - Big Meadows. Located in the Hope Valley area south of Lake Tahoe. Meet at 9:30am at the Big Meadows trail-head on Highway 89 about half way between Meyers and the junction with Hwy 88. Carpool from the Forest Service offices at 1536 Carson Street in Carson City at 8:30am or the Pink Scolari's at 8165 South Virginia Street in Reno at 8am. The first quarter mile of trail climbs about 300 feet with many big steps made of boulders. After that the trail levels out in the meadow and those who want a longer hike can continue up to Scott, Round, or Dardanelles Lakes. For further information you can contact leader Janel Johnson at 775-684-2911 or John Weiser at 775-331-4485, any time after 5:00pm

SOUTHERN NEVADA HAPPENINGS MEETINGS

Meetings are on the first Monday of every month starting at 6:30 pm. They are held at the U.S. Geological Survey office at 160 N. Stephanie Street in Henderson. Contact Matt Hamilton (702) 468-2251 if you have any questions or would like to be added to the notification by email list, mojave0827@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 10th - To be announced.

OCTOBER 1st - Doug Merkler with NRCS will give a presentation on some of his recent projects.

NOVEMBER 5th - Julie Thompson with the Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition, based in Ely, NV, will present some of their recent projects.

DECEMBER 3rd - Annual holiday potluck and member slide shows!

FLOWERS AND FALLS by Bonnie Larsen

On Saturday, June 10th, approximately 20 people met at the Blairsden Park and Ride at the junction of Highway 70 and Highway 89. The outing, led by Bill and Nancy Harnach, was planned to view flora at Fern Falls and Frazier Falls off Highway 89. The day was sunny and breezy, which worked out well for the trip.

There was a bit of consternation at the Fern Falls trailhead as the sign had been removed by persons unknown, but it soon became clear that we were in the right place. The trail to the falls passes through an area of large trees where false Solomon's seal, *Smilacina* sp. displayed showy white flowers. The trail then crosses rocky open areas. Dominant shrubs in the area included

two manzanita, *Arctosaphylos nevadensis* and *A. patula* and serviceberry, *Amelanchier alnifolia*, all in bloom. *Spiraea douglasii* promised to bloom soon.

The main object of our visit was to see the Fawn Lily, *Erythronium purpurascens*, a lily that blooms following snowmelt. Timing has to be just right, but we were fortunate and saw numerous specimens of the lovely flower with colors varying from yellow to pink. A hike up a large rock outcrop yielded various ferns and bright pink *Penstemon newberryi* in the moister areas. On the dryer top was hot rock penstemon, *P. duustus*, the yellow-flowered buckwheat, *Eriogonum marifolium*, the hidden yellow flowers of pine lousewort, *Pedicularis semibarbata*, pink *Phlox speciosa*, and *Sedum obtusatum*, not blooming.

Fern Falls? Only one person went to look at the falls - an error based on the belief that others had gone there. After collecting wandering souls, lost and found children, coats and vests, we were off to Frazier Falls.

Here we had lunch at picnic tables. The forested area was brightened by white-blooming bitter cherry, *Prunus emarginata*, which also was prominent along the paved trail to the falls. After lunch, being composed of people with different interests, the group strung out from the picnic area to the falls, which had plenty of water and were quite beautiful. Besides bitter cherry, a dominant shrub along the way was shrubby huckleberry oak, *Quercus vaccinifolia*, just beginning its seasonal growth. Bright pink-blooming currant, *Ribes cereum* appeared in several spots. Along the trail were numerous cheerful yellow blooms- a violet, *Viola glabella* a buckwheat, *Eriogonum unbellatum*, a wallflower, *Erysium capitatum*, a feathery carrot family member, *Cymopterus terebinthinus*, and a butterweed, *Senecio* sp. Also seen were a rock cress, *Arabis holboellii*, wooly breeches, *Hydrophyllum occidentale*, and the alum root, *Heuchera micrantha*, which grows in cracks on rocky faces.

By four o'clock most had made it to the falls and returned to the parking lot where we ended a most successful trip, thanks to Bill and Nancy.*

INTERMOUNTAIN FLORA VOLUME 2A

It is now official, Intermountain Flora volume 2A will be published on the 12th of August. This volume will complete the set of eight and will be most welcomed by all interested in the plants of the western United States. Some of the families in this volume are Chenopodiaceae, Polygonaceae, Ranunculaceae, Caryophyllaceae, and Nyctaginaceae.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Amber Joiner, Reno, NV.
Deborah Magness, Las Vegas, NV.
Diane Erwin, Berkeley, CA.
Breanne Craig, Reno, NV.
Ginger Cutright, Yerington, NV.
Hannah Sullivan, Tahoe City, CA.
JoAnne Robben, Carson City, NV.
Michael & Nadine Malcolm, Sparks, NV.
Christy and Charles Tveit, Lakeview, OR.

Kathie Priebe, Reno, NV.
Nina Kidd, Perris, CA.
Rachel Newton, Boise, ID.

Nevada Native Plant Society
PO Box 8965
Reno NV 89507-8965

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Renewal

Newsletter preference: Paper Electronic

- Individual, family or group for one year\$15.00
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- Dues are for the calendar year in which you join. Membership expiration dates are on the mailing labels.

Gifts, and bequests are tax deductible.

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Please make checks payable and mail to: NNPS • P.O. Box 8965 • Reno, NV 89507