

BOREALIS

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Alaska Native Plant Society

P.O. Box 141613, Anchorage, AK 99511

MEETING NEWS

The December meeting of the Anchorage Chapter will be on Monday, December 7th at 8PM in the basement meeting room of the Grandview Gardens Library, 1325 Primrose (just south of DeBarr and 1 block west of Bragaw). Entrance is on the west side, facing Primrose.

BOARD MEETING---The Board of Directors will meet at 7:15PM immediately preceding the General Meeting. Directors please note.

PROGRAM---Lecture & slide show on the plant communities of some islands in the Gulf of Alaska, presented by Martha Hatch.

PLANT FAMILY---Larry Read will lead a discussion on the *Cryptogrammaceae* or Mountain Parsley Family. There are 3 genera in Alaska. They are commonly known as the Parsley Ferns and grow mainly in rocky outcroppings throughout Southeastern and Southcentral Alaska and the Aleutian Chain, and in scattered areas of Interior Alaska. They are small plants with somewhat curly and lacey sterile leaves and fertile fronds.

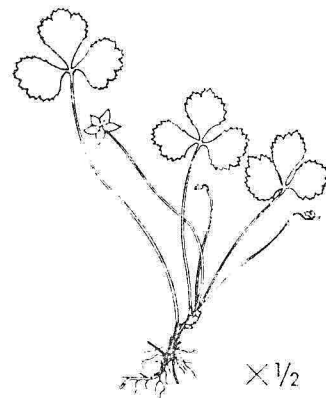
CONTEST RESULTS

The 1987 Wildflower Painting Contest winner has been chosen. Donna Standerwick of Juneau did it again, this time with her rendition of a Chocolate Lily. This is the 3rd year that she has won. We had 13 entries this year. Congratulations, Donna!!!

ELECTIONS: Anchorage Chapter-- Dec. 7
The slate of officers for 1988, selected by the nominating committee, is: Pres., John Wenger; Vice-Pres., Sandy Underwood; Sec., Peggy Pletcher; Treas., Larry Haller. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor.

MYSTERY PLANT

This small plant of coastal Southeastern and Southcentral Alaska and the Aleutian Chain has dark green leaves with 3 sharply-toothed leaflets on long petioles. Leaves are persistent, even in the winter. These plants grow in very moist, mossy woodlands. The long slender stem bears 1 flower with 5 very small rounded petals and 5 white sepals that are pinkish on the outer side. Its bright yellow roots are filiform (fine and thread like).



PROTECTED AREA

Under the Alaska Division of Parks new management plan for Hatcher Pass, the area from the roadhouse of the Palmer side of the pass to the 1st creek on the west side of the pass is closed to the collecting of plant materials.

WE ARE ALL NATURALISTS AT HEART

During our early college years, an old friend and I discovered an unforgettable quote. Obscurely etched on crumbling paper used to press plant specimens, we stumbled upon it in a dark, musty university herbarium. Quoted by a 16th century anonymous Danish educator, the words are classic and though my botanist buddy has gone his way and I mine, the idea holds us together in a basic philosophy of life-----

we are all naturalists at heart!

The wise Dane said,

"Go, my son, burn your books. Buy yourselves stout shoes. Get away to the mountains, the valleys, the shores of the seas, the deserts, and the deepest recesses of the earth. In this way and no other, will you find true knowledge of things and their properties."

Thought provoking, like a web of life, let's tear it apart to reveal its meaning---the roots that give it structure.

Go my Sons, rid yourselves of your books. Certainly not literally but now that their meat has been consumed they are too cumbersome to burden you with their weight and academics. Free yourself from their restricted and impersonal content. The true path to knowledge lies in personal discovery and experience. These adventurous trails intertwine within the world of nature.

Prepare yourselves. True adventure demands stout shoes and likewise a stout mind. You read your books but now you're ready to venture deeper---to explore the inner self through outward involvement. Prepare your mind as you pack your duffle, in an orderly and purposeful manner. Now, take it! Jump in with both feet!

Go where? Everywhere and nowhere. Anywhere where Nature reveals her secrets to your searching quest. Be it sailing dark seas, climbing lofty peaks, or exploring a humble backyard. Finding her answers depends on you and your capability for revelation. Consequently this determines how many tickets will need to be purchased or how many boot soles are worn out.

The Dane educator's message was clear. The challenge to act lies upon us individually. Desire was innately implanted. We need only to create opportunities and grind them into gear. Man's kindled desire to find knowledge lies within Nature and ourselves. It always has. If we are willing

to sacrifice, to explore with an open mind using all of our senses, the real meaning of the quote is truly grasped---

we are all naturalists at heart!

John E. Wenger

DUES IS DUE

Please note that dues for 1988 will become due and payable on January 1st.

FOR SALE

This notice is for the photographers among our members. Particularly those who own Nikons. More particularly those who don't think it degrading to hang other than a Nikon lens on their Nikon camera. I was recently able to acquire 2 brand new Tokina lenses at a ridiculously bargain price. Although I don't need either one, I felt that some ANPS members might appreciate a good deal. One is a 28-70mm f:4.0 zoom, and the other a 28-85mm f:3.5-4.5 zoom. Both have macro focusing. Anyway, the price is \$50 each! Wow, I might even keep one just for a spare. Contact your editor, Frank Pratt at [redacted] for details; but hurry, Christmas is coming!

WE NEED SEEDS

We would like to plan another seed sale/exchange. Also, seeds are still needed for continuation of the reseed project at Glen Alps. These need to be stratified and spread in the Spring. Anyone who has seeds and is interested in either project, please contact one of the officers.

FIELD TRIPS

Another field trip season will soon be upon us (notwithstanding the depth of snow in your front yard), and it is definitely not too soon to start planning. Let's hear your ideas for 1988 field trips.

QUIZ ANSWER

Coptis trifolia, Gold Thread.

HELP WANTED

The size (small) of this issue was limited by 2 factors: 1) a very hectic season for the newsletter staff (Verna & Frank), and 2) lack of input. We've said it before, and we'll say it again---without input there can't be a newsletter !!! Come on gang, you can do it. How about a New Year's resolution (unbreakable) by each member to submit at least one article.

CHOCOLATE CHERRY BARS

1 package Pillsbury Plus devils food cake mix
21 ounce can cherry pie filling
1 teaspoon almond extract
2 eggs, beaten

FROSTING

1 cup sugar
5 teaspoons margarine
1/3 cup milk
1 cup (6 ounce package) semi-sweet chocolate bits

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour 13x9 oblong pan (or 15x10 jelly roll pan). In a large bowl combine first four ingredients. Stir by hand until well mixed. Pour into prepared pan. Bake jelly roll pan 20-30 minutes; 13x9 pan 5 minutes longer or until toothpick comes out clean. In a small saucepan, combine sugar, margarine and milk. Boil, stirring constantly one minute. Remove from heat. Stir in chocolate pieces until smooth. Pour over warm bars. Makes 3 dozen.

(Try using German chocolate cake mix -- that's good, too.)

This is the cherry 'cake' I took to the recent potluck and some people asked for the recipe.

Jean Poor