

BOREALIS

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P.O. BOX 141613, Anchorage, Alaska 99514

March 1992

ANPS STATE OFFICERS ARE:

President---Forrest Baldwin, Vice-President---Jean Poor, Secretary---Jean Tam, Treasurer---Yasu Gurusingam-Thiru, Newsletter (appointed)---Frank Pratt

ANCHORAGE CHAPTER OFFICERS ARE:

President----Gary Davies, Vice-President---Charles (Chuck) Adsit, Secretary---Carol Hoblitzell, Treasurer---Ram Srinivasan, Rep. to State Board---Frank Bogardus

ANCHORAGE CHAPTER MEETING NEWS:

The March meeting of the Anchorage Chapter will be held on Monday, March 2nd, at 7:30PM in the meeting room of the Muldoon Library in the Carr's Shopping Mall on the corner of Muldoon Road and Northern Lights Blvd. The Library will be closed, so enter by the door at the rear of the building

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors will meet at 6:45PM just prior to the general membership meeting. Board members are:

- President Gary Davies
- Past-President John Wenger
- Vice-President Charles(Chuck) Adsit
- Secretary Carol Hoblitzell
- Treasurer Ram Srinivasan
- Rep. to State Board .. Frank Bogardus
- General Programs Marilyn Barker
- Field Trips Frank Bogardus
- Newsletter Frank Pratt

Board members please take note and mark your calendars. Continued absence from Board meetings can be grounds for removal from the Board.

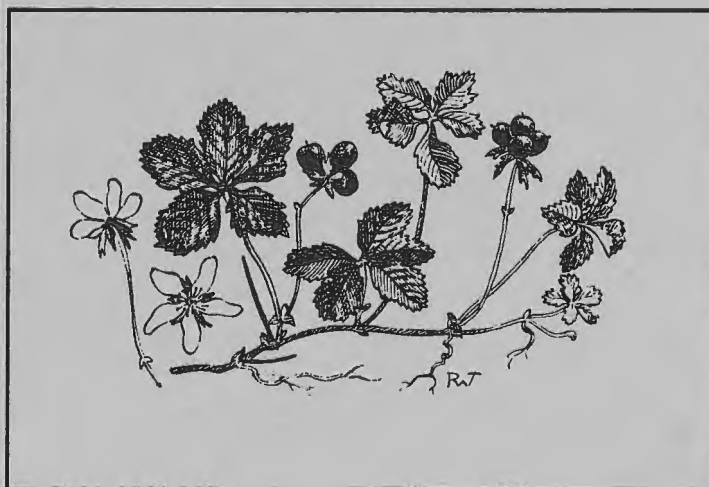
PROGRAM: ANPS Member and Newsletter Editor Frank Pratt will present a program on "Wildflower Photography". He and his wife, Verna, produced most of the photography for their books, "Field Guide to Alaskan Wildflowers" (published in 1989), and "Wildflowers along the Alaska Highway (to be released soon). The discussion will probably cover subjects such as;

basics of photography, equipment, films and special techniques. The program will be informal and the actual content will be determined by an audience survey prior to the discussion.

PLANT FAMILY: This month we will finish our discussion of the Primrose (*Primulaceae*) family with 3 genera (*Trientalis*, *Lysimachia*, and *Glaux*) being considered. These 3 genera, unlike those discussed at the February meeting, all have leaves on the flowering stems.

MYSTERY PLANT:

This low, trailing, evergreen vine, of the rose (*Rosaceae*) family, should be familiar to everyone living in the coastal basins and slopes of the Alaska Range. The 5-foliolate, toothed leaves are distinctive among the area's plants. The vinelike stems are usually unseen below the mosses in the moist woodlands where found. The flowers have 5 narrow, white petals and produce soft berries that are tasty, but difficult to obtain in quantity.



Mystery Plant

submitted by Toby

DUES IS STILL DUE !!!

The 1992 membership dues are now due and payable. Please check your mailing label. If it does not indicate "92"; then our records indicate that your 1992 dues have not been paid and this will be the last newsletter that you will receive.

FIELD TRIPS:

Kantishna Hills---June 8, 9, 10

This is a chance to visit the historic Kantishna area and to explore the alpine botany of the area. You'll stay at the Kantishna Roadhouse, where all cabins, meals and activities are included in the price. Carolyn Parker, the Field Botanist at the Roadhouse, will be your guide for the field trips.

COST: \$250.00 per person. A deposit of \$125.00 is due at the March ANPS meeting (or mail immediately to the P.O. Box). Check should be made out to ANPS.

LIMIT: 12 ANPS members. There are three cabins, which sleep two each. Some people will need to bring sleeping bags.

CAR POOLING: Permits to drive into Denali Park will be mailed to the driver of each car. The Roadhouse will need a list of people and the address of each driver.

Mon., Jun 8---Drive through Denali Park to Kantishna.

Tues., Jun 9---Alpine botany with Carolyn Parker.

Wed., Jun 10--Drive out of Denali Park.

NOTE: Some members plan to camp on Jun 6 and/or Jun 7 at Bison Gulch just a few miles north of Denali Park. It's a wonderful area, just a few minutes walking into alpine areas. For info call Frank or Verna at

Please come forward with more ideas for Field Trips as summer is closing in on us fast. (Really, now is the time to get plans made, so that members can get them coordinated into their own summer plans.)

CLASSES:

The Mat-Su Community Schools is offering for the Spring Semester 1992 a course on Birds of Alaska taught by Naturalist/Wildlife Biologist, John Wenger.

This course is designed to provide field instruction and experience to those interested in learning more about the birds of Alaska. Information will be both general and specific so anyone, regardless of background, may attend and benefit. This course consists of informal and enjoyable outings to Mat-Su valley "hot spots". Instruction will focus on the identification

of local species, using "field marks" and behavioral characteristics. Several early morning canoe trips will highlight bird calls and songs. Additional topics will include the migration, habitat needs, territories, classification, and characteristics of our Alaskan bird species.

Date: 4/26-6/7 Time: 7 am to 12 noon

Place: Field class-complete itinerary/information provided upon registration.

Contact Community Schools at 746-9526 or instructor at

Fee: \$60.00 includes registration fee.

MORE CLASSES:

Natural History of Alaska Classes

The Mat-Su Borough School District Community Education Program is also offering the following classes taught by John Wenger.

(Note: these classes fill fast, see special notations)

Natural History of the Denali Parks (Bio.176)

2 credits. First class. June 8-21; Second class: August 10-23. Class fee: \$765 (train fare: \$120) (Still open)

Natural History of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Non-credit. June 25-July 5. Class fee: \$465

(includes transportation in Alaska). (Still open)

Natural History of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Non-credit. July 6-19. Class fee: \$665 (in-

cludes transportation in Alaska) (Filled at this time)

Natural History of the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve Non-credit. July 20-August 5.

Class fee: \$865 (includes transportation in Alaska)

(Almost filled at this time).

For details, contact John Wenger,

, Anchorage, AK 99504, or call (907)

(6:30-8:30 am) Tue & Fri Anchorage Time.

QUIZ ANSWER:

Trailing Raspberry or Five-leaf Bramble (*Rubus pedatus*).

EAGLE RIVER VISITOR CENTER:

ANPS Member Ginny Harpring is looking for some help maintaining the wildflower plantings around the Visitor Center. If anyone can help, please contact her at .

SEED GROWERS/COLLECTORS:

Ronald Werner

is an organic horticulturist looking for rare and native seeds or plants and would like contacts with Alaskans wishing to trade or sell seeds or plants.

THE BOTANY OF ALASKA IN

1867: When the United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 it was not well surveyed. An expedition later that year by the U.S. Coast Survey mapped the boundaries of the newly acquired territory. On that expedition was a scientist, Dr. H. Kellogg who collected plants for study.

This specimen of *Saxifraga caespitosa* was collected on Spruce Island, just north of Kodiak Island in 1867. The specimens from this early expedition to Alaska remain at the U.S. National Herbarium, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.-----submitted by: ANPS Member Jason R. Grant, Dept. of Botany, University of Maryland at College Park.



Saxifraga caespitosa

We Are All Naturalist 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, dusty university herbarium. Quoted by a 16th century Danish anonymous 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 Sons, 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 essence has been digested, they are too cumbersome to burden you with their weight and academics. Free yourselves 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 duffel, in an orderly and purposeful manner. Now, take it. Jump in with both feet!

Go where? Everywhere or nowhere. Anywhere where nature reveals her secrets to your searching quest - be it sailing dark seas, climbing lofty peaks, or exploring a humble backyard. Nature's secrets are universal. She claims no boundaries. 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 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 seek, to explore with an open mind using all our senses, the real meaning of the quote is truly grasped – we are all naturalists at heart!

John E. Wenger

A.N.P.S. 1992 Seed List

Plants listed with Strat. (stratification) need a period of about 45 days of freezing or freezing and thawing weather. The easiest way to achieve this is to sow seeds in a container and put outside. Cover with snow or water them from time to time.

- # 1. *Aconitum delphinifolium* (Monkshood),,Strat.
2. *Androsace septentrionalis* (Northern Jasmine)
3. *Anemone multifida* (Cut-leaf Anemone) Strat.
4. *Anemone parviflora* (Northern Anemone, Wind Flower)
Strat.
5. *Antennaria rosea* (Pink Pussy-toes)
6. *Aquilegia formosa* (Western Columbine)
7. *Arnica alpina* subs. *atenuata* (Tall Alpine Arnica)
8. *Arnica cordifolia* (Heart-leaf Arnica)
9. *Arnica frigida* (Frigid Arnica)
10. *Aster junciformis* (Rush Aster)
11. *Aster sibiricus* (Siberian Aster)
12. *Campanula rotundifolia* (Bluebells of Scotland)
13. *Corydalis aurea* (Golden Corydalis)
14. *Dodecatheon pulchellum* subs. *pauciflorum* (Few-flowered Shooting Star) Damp. Strat.
15. *Dryas drumondii* (Yellow Dryas) Strat.
16. *Erigeron compositus* subs. *glabratus* (Cut-leaf Fleabane) Eastern Ak. and Yukon Ter. Taller than local variety and usually white flowers.
17. *Erigeron glabellus* subs. *pubescens* (Fringed Fleabane)
18. *Lesquerella arctica* (Arctic Bladderpod)
19. *Menyanthes trifoliata* (Bog Bean, Buckbean) Damp Strat.
20. *Oxytropis splendens* (Showy Loco-weed) Strat. recommended
21. *Papaver alboroseum* (Pale Pink Poppy)
22. *Papaver lapponicum* (Arctic Poppy)
23. *Polemonium pulchellum* (Low Jacobs Ladder)
24. *Sanguisorba* (Burnet)
25. *Saussurea* sp.

ALASKA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
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