

Borealis

the newsletter of the



P.O. Box 141613, Anchorage, Alaska 99514-1613

DECEMBER 2000

December Meeting

Monday, December 4th, 7:30 PM
at the
Campbell Creek Science Center
off 68th and Lake Otis

ANPS Member Curvin Metzler
will present

“Using Fractals to Model Plants”

He will explain techniques (IFS and Lindenmayer) in the modeling of plants, and the use of algorithms to simulate plant development and inflorescences. (He’ll even tell you what a Fractal is!)

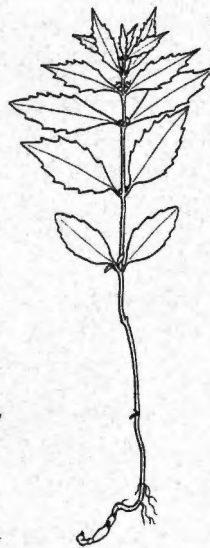
Lysimachia thyrsiflora, Tufted Loosestrife, is in the Primulaceae/Primrose family. Although most leaves are opposite, some are alternate. They grow on a thick upright 12-18” stem arising from the water near the edge of lakes. They are smooth, entire, long and narrow. The plant could easily be mistaken for Fireweed, when not in bloom, but Fireweed does not grow in water. It can be found in scattered locations south of the Brooks Range. The small yellow flowers are borne on a dense spike arising from the leaf axils and can be puzzling at first as the number of petals varies from flower to flower (5 to 7). Some areas to look are: Kepler/Bradley Lakes (Palmer), Pamela Jo Lowry Park (Anchorage), Fire Island. Also, Peterson, Watson and Johnson Lakes on the Kenai Peninsula.

PLANT FAMILY

Presenter-Verna Pratt

This year we are concentrating on plants that grow in the water, so sometimes this involves just a portion of a family. This month’s selection is two unrelated genera.

Lycopus uniflorus is a member of the Labiatae/Mint family. Its ovate, toothed, light green leaves are placed opposite on the erect, 12-15” upright, square stem. The small white (mint-like) flowers grow singularly and close to the stem, at the base of the leaves. It is a plant of warmer climates and found only near hot springs in Alaska.



Lycopus uniflorus



Lysimachia thyrsiflora

ELECTION RESULTS

At the November Meeting, the Nominating Committee presented their proposed slate of officers. There being no additional nominations presented from the floor, it was moved that the slate be approved as presented. The motion was seconded, and approved unanimously by a show of hands. The new Officers and Program Coordinators as presented here will take office on 1 January 2001.

Officers—2001

President Frank Pratt
Vice President Leonard Grau
Secretary Beth Koltun
Treasurer Sue Jensen

Program Coordinators—2001

Main Program —Open—
Plant Family Verna Pratt
Mini-Botany Marilyn Barker
Field Trips Susan Klein

Newsletter (“Borealis”)

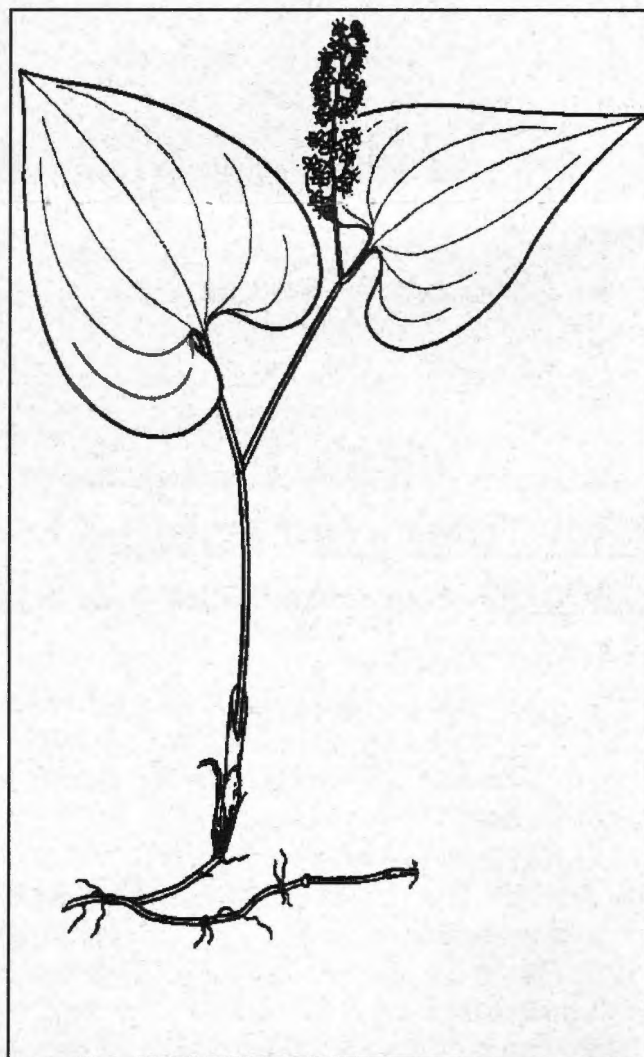
Editor Ginny Moore

Wanted: ANPS Program Chair

I am stepping down as program chair in January and we need to fill the position. I've really enjoyed doing the programs but am ready to move on to another activity. This position is really not that hard and I am willing to help the new person with suggestions and a “how to do it” cheat sheet. The main tasks are asking people to do a program and writing a small paragraph for the Newsletter and to go in the Anchorage Daily News. Other members of the Native Plant Society often give suggestions and contact names, so you don't have to personally know the people you ask to do programs. I also have a list of possible people and topics, which I will pass on to the next chair. Programs can be lined up in advance, so you don't necessarily have to find someone each month. If you're lucky, you can schedule programs for the whole year and sit back and relax. If you are interested please call me (Susan Klein) at _____ or at _____ days. Thanks!

MYSTERY PLANT

This plant, like many in northern climates, spreads by rhizomes, allowing it to spread very rapidly. It is native to the west coast of North America from Oregon to Prince William Sound in Alaska. It also grows in coastal areas of similar climates in Asia (China, Japan, etc.). Each stem usually has 2 glossy, palmately veined, heart-shaped leaves and a spike of feathery white flowers. They can form dense mats and could easily be used as a ground cover as they carpet the woods of Southeast Alaska. They have red berries in the fall. Some plants have been seen on Penguin Ridge on the Seward Highway, so they could also be present in the Girdwood area.



Membership Application

Date _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Full-time Student (\$5.00)— Senior—65 yrs. (\$10.00)— Individual (\$12.00)—
Family (one address) (\$18.00)-2 votes— Organization (\$30.00)-1 vote—

Name(s) (of voting members): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Work: _____

Email address: _____

Amount enclosed: _____ Paid by: Cash— Check—

I would like to help with:
Programs— Mini-Botany— School Programs— Plantings—
Newsletter— Field Trips— School Programs— Committees—
Art Displays— Educational Displays— Other---(specify) _____

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