



# Klamath Basin Chapter, Native Plant Society of Oregon

Summary of 9/12/17 and 10/2/17 Meeting Notes:

## **Treasurer's Report**

As of 9/12, the Chapter had a balance of \$147.26.

## **Website**

Our paid website subscription ends Nov. 4. After some investigation and discussion, the group opted to go with the Wild Apricot Free version, which will have an advertising banner and some limitations. There can only be one administrator. Data storage is limited to 100 MB, which we currently are under. Email contacts are limited to 50; our current email list exceeds 150. Sarah (secretary) will maintain a mailing list and send out email notices. Note: many people that come to events are not regular members, but see the notices in the H&N, or on Facebook.

## **2017 Field Trips**

Field trips generally went well and had 10 or more people. The museum native plant garden tours were popular with 30+ attending. Todd volunteered to do an Oct 7 field trip to look at oaks on the Running Y Skillet Handle.

## **Winter Programs and Meeting Dates**

Because of scheduling conflicts at the museum, the regular meeting time was moved to the first Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. Tentative programs include the following:

- November – Ron Larson vernal pools and playa lakes;
- December – no program;
- January – no program;
- February – group potluck and Name that Plant slideshow contest;
- March – either a program on the BLM herbarium, or on noxious weeds
- April – growing native plants conference?
- May – Gary Vequist wildflowers of the Skillet Handle

## **Growing Native Plants Conference**

Linda Hardison of the Oregon Flora Project is interested in working with us to put on a native plant conference in Klamath Falls next spring, similar to the one in Bend last spring. The group reviewed Chuck Edson's comments on the Bend event and came up with the following ideas:

- Overview of OFP information and ecoregion concepts, with hands on/practical tips for using the information so people can determine which ecoregion they're in and make informed choices as to what plants would work with which soils, irrigation regimes, etc.
- Explain choices of products and procedures to remove existing landscaping, including sod, juniper, and in many cases mixed grass/weeds.
- Talk about how to obtain plants – whether from nurseries, seed, or transplanting.
- Explain how and when to go about planting, including soil amendments, mycorrhizae, etc.

Other comments: Late in April would be best, people are more tuned into gardening when the weather is nice, but there is too much going on in May. There seems to be quite a bit of interest here in xeriscaping, low maintenance, and providing pollinator plants. For our audience, things should be fairly brief and not very technical. We would like to include a tour of the Klamath County Museum native plant garden and have a native plant sale. Keeping costs down will be important to getting a good turnout. Todd suggested applying for \$500 cultural grant to help defray the costs.

### **Native Plant Sale(s)**

There is strong demand for native plant materials in Klamath Falls. The group decided to have a native plant sale fundraiser in conjunction with the native plant conference in April. However, April is a little early for plants to be in a sellable condition, and also for setting plants out, so there may be subsequent sales in May/June. Todd has had great success buying native plants in Bend and re-selling them. He also has a \$300 gift certificate for Clearwater Nursery that we could use to purchase plants. Sarah is growing some native species at home. Steve and Sarah are going to plant additional things this fall that need cold stratification, like Oregon sunshine. There also is potential to dig up volunteers at the museum native plant garden in the spring. Ken recommended we develop beds of species that are easy to propagate by division. Carmel works at Mountain Valley Nursery and can get a discount on potting mix.

Sarah Malaby  
Secretary