



Native Plant News

Vol. 16, No. 4

SPECIAL FULL COLOUR PRINT EDITION

Winter 2011

Facebook was buzzing

Online fans pick favourite photo

By CHET NEUFELD

NPSS Executive Director

The 2011 photo contest results are in!

We received 98 entries from members across the province. The photos were great and showcased flora from all over Saskatchewan.

The contest was judged by NPSS board member Margaret Put and guest judge Todd Kemper of Environment Canada.

A few exceptional photographers seem to have hijacked top honours in each category in 2011, with Kerry Hecker, Glen Longpre and Andrew Stewart leading the way.

In fact, it was Kerry Hecker who took the top spot as overall winner with her "Geum and Bumblebee" photo, which was also the People's Choice winner on our Facebook page and top photo in the Flora category. The photo won her a \$40 gift card from Mountain Equipment Co-op.

"It has good technical quality, good composition, an interesting subject," said Kemper of the winning photo, "and it tells a story by suggesting connections between flora and critters that are more familiar to us."

Congratulations to all our winners!



PHOTO BY KERRY HECKER

Continued on Pages 4, 5 & 6 "Geum and Bumblebee" was the overall, people's choice and flora categories winner.

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Native Plant News is a quarterly publication of the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan (NPSS) and is one of the benefits of membership. Members are invited to submit articles, news, views, photographs and comments. Views expressed by the authors are not necessarily those of the NPSS.

Deadlines:

	Submission	Publication
Winter Issue:	November 1	December 15
Spring Issue:	February 1	March 15
Summer Issue:	May 1	June 15
Fall Issue:	August 1	September 15

Membership Dues (Year End November 30th)

Individual \$30

Family \$45

Student/Low Income \$15

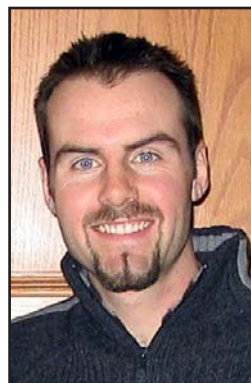
Corporate \$200

Life \$500

Please contact the NPSS office for information about the lifetime membership instalment payment option.

Marketing plan in the works for 2012

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a good Christmas. Looking back at the past year, 2011 was quite a busy time for the NPSS. We had many projects on the go, a great annual general meeting and several successful field tours.

**CHET NEUFELD**

EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR'S
message

Looking forward, 2012 promises to be an even busier year.

The next event is our annual general meeting and conference, which is one of the busiest and best events of the year. Believe me, it's not to be missed.

It is always well attended and always features an interesting line-up of speakers. Those of you who have previously attended our annual general meetings know how interesting and how much fun they are. If you've never attended one, then you should really go this year!

This year we're at the Conexus Arts Centre in Regina and the theme is Balancing Conservation and Profit.

It deals with native plants, natural habitats and ecotourism. Please read more on Pages 3 and 7.

I hope to see you all there!

Our work won't end after the annual general meeting.

I have submitted eight proposals for projects for 2012, ranging from rare plant work to invasive species removal to educational projects and everything in between. If we are fully funded this year, we will be very busy indeed.

We are also planning many exciting field trips to locations across Saskatchewan. Keep reading the *Native Plant News* for details or visit our website frequently.

For the first time ever, we are also rolling out a marketing plan aimed at introducing more people to native plants and the NPSS. The plan will target people in and around Regina and Saskatoon and will involve targeted brochure placement, radio and magazine ads and billboards. Hopefully we'll get more people involved in the society, our activities and native plant conservation.

As always, if you ever have any questions or comments about the society, our projects and events, or native plants in general please don't hesitate to contact me. Or come to the AGM and talk to me in person.

All the best in 2012! *

Membership fee reminder

NPSS membership fees are now past due!

Renewing your membership is easier than ever. Just go to our online store on our website (www.npss.sk.ca) and pay with any major credit card. It's fast, easy and secure.

Or you can use the registration form that was in our Fall 2011 newsletter.

Don't forget, members get \$10 off the AGM registration! *

Advertise in the *Native Plant News*



Contact the NPSS for rates at info@npss.sk.ca or visit www.npss.sk.ca to view our rate card.

Grow your business, plant the seeds of success here.

Register for the AGM and conference today



FILE PHOTO BY CANDACE NEUFELD

The 2012 NPSS AGM and conference will focus on ecotourism in Saskatchewan.

By *CHET NEUFELD*
NPSS Executive Director

Time is running out for you to register for the upcoming NPSS annual general meeting and conference at the Conexus Arts Centre in Regina, Feb. 17 and 18.

The theme this year is Balancing Conservation and Profit and features an exciting line-up of speakers.

Friday night will feature a keynote address discussing ecotourism in the province by Jonathon Potts, Director of Marketing at Toursim Saskatchewan. The keynote will be followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Saturday morning will opening with a breakfast meeting and native plant nursery commemoration. After coffee, you will be treated to a number of interesting and entertaining speakers covering diverse and interesting topics, including: trail development in Grasslands National Park; the balancing act between bison, tourism and ranching in the Sturgeon River area; and, the impacts of ATV use on native plant habitats.

After lunch there will be a presentation on a new ecotourism venture in the

Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park and you'll learn about current initiatives within the park.

Saturday afternoon will wrap up with a screening of a documentary on the recent bioblitz event held at Saskatoon's Northeast Swale, followed by a workshop on case studies in natural area management.

Please see the agenda and registration on Page 7 for more information.

The AGM promises to be an entertaining and educational event and is always one of the highlights of the year. So if you want good times, good company and good food act fast and register today.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship received so far, we've been able to keep our prices the same as last year: \$35 for students; \$45 for members; and \$55 for non-members. You won't find a better deal anywhere!

You can register online through our website store at www.npss.sk.ca using your credit card or you can fill out the registration form on Page 7 and mail it to us with a cheque.

Hope to see you there! *✿

Upcoming Events

February 2012

Native Prairie Speaker Series

Wednesday, February 22

University of Saskatchewan, Physics building, Saskatoon

12:10 to 12:50 p.m. (Technical) – *The road less travelled ... by rare plants looking for a home*; Darcy Henderson, Environment Canada

Western Development Museum
Saskatoon, Sask.

7 to 8 p.m. (Public) – *Turkey vultures: Parents in abstentia!*; Stuart Houston
www.pcap-sk.org

April 2012

Society of Ethnobiology 35th annual meeting: Consavaion and communities

April 11 to 14

Denver Botanic Gardens
Denver, Colorado

The annual Ethnobiology conference brings together people from an extraordinarily rich variety of backgrounds, disciplines, and geographic locations, all seeking to understand the myriad interactions of human cultures with plants and animals, past and present, worldwide. This year's conference theme explores the importance and power of linking conservation efforts to communities.

Email: conference@ethnobiology.org
<http://ethnobiology.org/conference>

Weeds Across Borders 2012: Meeting the Challenges of the Future

April 24 to 27

Hotel Grand Oasis Resort
Cancun, Mexico

WAB is an international conference covering the interests of professionals and organizations involved in weed management and regulation. The purpose of the conference is to exchange information on and help promote awareness of the ecological, economic and social impacts of invasive species throughout North America.

Email: weedsacrossborders2012@gmail.com
www.weedcenter.org/wab/2012

To submit your native plant related event to our events list, send your information (including date, contact, phone number and location) to info@npss.sk.ca

Flora

Second



PHOTO BY ANDREW STEWART
(Left) Thread-leaf sedge (*Carex filifolia*) blowing in the wind.



PHOTO BY GLEN LONGPRE
(Above) HONOURABLE MENTION: Round-leaved orchid (*Orchis rotundifolia*) stands at attention.

Third



PHOTO BY KERRY HECKER
(Above) Shining arnica (*Arnica fulgens*) showing their sunny disposition.

PHOTO BY ANDREW STEWART
(Right) HONOURABLE MENTION: Stemless townsendia (*Townsendia exscapa*) after a rain.



Scenery

PHOTO BY GLEN LONGPRE
(Right) The sun lights a path through a poplar (*Populus spp.*) bluff in the Battlefords Provincial Park.

First



Second



PHOTO BY ANDREW STEWART
Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) branches covered in frost and snow shine in the sun.

Third

PHOTO BY VANESSA JUKES
A bug's perspective of the prairie grassland looking down a railway track.



close-ups

PHOTO BY
RACHEL TURNQUIST
**(Right) Prairie
purple coneflower
(*Echinacea angustifolia*)
awaits a honey bee.**



PHOTO BY SARAH VINGE
**(Above) HONOURABLE MENTION: Smooth
wild strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*
ssp. glauca).**



PHOTO BY GLEN LONGPRE
**(Above) Sticky purple geranium (*Geranium*
viscosissimum var. *viscosissimum*).**



(Above) A Sunflower (*Helianthus* spp.) takes in the sun.

PHOTO BY LISA GRILZ



The Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan, Inc.

is pleased to present its 17th Annual
General Meeting and Conference:

Balancing Conservation and Profit

Feb. 17 and 18, 2012
Conexus Arts Centre
200 Lakeshore Dr.,
Regina, Saskatchewan

Agenda

Friday, February 17th

- 5:45 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 p.m. Presentation of Volunteer of the Year awards
and member slides
- 7:00 p.m. **Keynote Address:** Ecotourism in Saskatchewan
(Johnathon Potts, Director of Marketing,
Tourism Saskatchewan)
- 8:00 p.m. Wine and cheese reception

Saturday, February 18th

- 8:00 a.m. Registration and breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Opening remarks and annual general
meeting (during breakfast)
- 9:30 a.m. **Wrap it up! The end of the Regina Plain Seed
Nursery;** Kerry Hecker (NPSS)
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee break and networking
- 10:15 a.m. **Trails – a gateway through rare habitats or
an open door to the heart of Canadians?**
Colin Schmidt (Parks Canada)
- 10:50 a.m. **Effects of ATV activity on native grasslands
near Prince Albert;** Erika Donald
(Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Technology)
- 11:25 a.m. **The Wild West Side Story;** Gord Vaadeland
(Sturgeon River Plains Bison Stewards)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. **Ziplines and ecotourism: Come out and play!**
Jori Kirk (Cypress Hills Eco-Adventures)
- 1:30 p.m. **New era in parks? Or just becoming better at
what we do?** Melody Nagel-Hisey
(Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport)
- 2:00 p.m. Coffee break and networking
- 2:15 - 5:00 p.m. **Workshop:** Case studies in Natural Areas
Management: Saskatoon's northeast swale and
Regina's Wascana

Please note: Due to allergies of staff and attendees, this is a
fragrance-free event.

Registration Form

Registration deadline is Feb. 3, 2012.

Mail or fax this form and mail payment by cheque to:

Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan
P.O. Box 21099
Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 5N9
FAX: 306-668-3940

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City / Town _____

Postal Code _____

Phone (____) _____

Email _____

Registration fees:

NPSS Member	\$45
Non NPSS Member	\$55
Students	\$35

Special dietary needs: _____

Membership fees:

Individual 1-year membership	\$30
Family 1-year membership	\$45
Student 1-year membership	\$15
Corporate 1-year membership	\$200

TOTAL ENCLOSED

\$ _____

PLEASE NOTE: You may register for the AGM and/or renew
your membership on our website (www.npss.sk.ca) using your
credit card and our online store. It's fast, easy and secure. Also,
the member rate is applicable only to PAID members. Member-
ships purchased at the time of registration entitle you to member-
ship rates.

For more information contact:

Chet Neufeld, NPSS Executive Director
Phone and Fax: (306) 668-3940
email: info@npss.sk.ca
Website: www.npss.sk.ca



Board member profile: Leanne Heisler

Hi, my name is Leanne Heisler and I am a recent edition to the NPSS Board of Directors.

I am a farm girl, born in Central Butte and raised 10 minutes outside of Marquis, Sask. I studied Biology and Physical Geography at the University of Saskatchewan, and spent my summers working for Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. The year following my graduation from my undergraduate studies I helped collect data for several graduate projects, eventually returning to the Nature Conservancy of Canada for almost two years.

My pride in Saskatchewan and love for the prairies has never been far from mind, but my admiration of the hardiness and versatility of prairie flora started with my first position with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), where I learned about grassland ecology, range management, the threat of invasive species and flora identification (my favorite species is scarlet mallow (*Sphaeralcea coccinea* ssp. *coccinea*!)).

My most recent position built on this experience, where I managed NCC's owned properties according to proper range management techniques, controlled noxious weeds, prepared cultivated lands for revegetation and monitored lands for biodiversity.

I am now pursuing graduate studies at the University of Regina where I will continue to learn about grassland ecology, focusing on small mammal ecology (particularly mice, shrews and voles). During my studies I plan to maintain my sanity through gardening with native plants and continuing to volunteer for the NPSS.

I want to thank for fellow directors for allowing me the opportunity to participate in the NPSS community, and hope to see many of my fellow NPSS members at the upcoming NPSS AGM! 🌱

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