

MINNESOTA PLANT PRESS

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 4 NEWSLETTER OF THE MINNESOTA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY WINTER 1984

BOOT LAKE SCIENTIFIC AND NATURAL AREA

by Bob Djupstrom*

The Boot Lake Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) is a delightful place to visit. It is only a 30 minute drive north of the Twin Cities. Many surprises are to be found here, including the Little Bluestem, a prairie grass that grows with White Pine.

Boot Lake SNA is a 400 acre mixture of oak forest with a remnant White Pine stand, a marsh, a 90+ acre bog lake with floating mat, and a Jack Pine Bog. The tract contains an extensive stand of Water Willow (Decondon verticillatus) — a more eastern plant species on the lakeshore, stands of Wild Rice, nesting Canadian geese and a Tamarack bog. Huckleberry (Gaylussacia brachycera), also an eastern species, is found on the (Oak Forest-bog border along with Mountain Holly Nemopanthus mucronata). The holly is especially evident in the winter months when the bright red berries provide a contrast with the snow cover. Other unusual plant species include Long-haired Hawkweed (Hieracium longipilum), found in the sand prairie habitat, on the eastern side. The northern affinity is especially evident in this area containing Red Maples and White Pine. Pipsissewa and Wintergreen grow here, along with other more northern species. The site also has a small Jack Pine bog with Cranberry growing in it.

The Ramshead Ladyslipper (Cypripedium arietinum) has been found here in the past. Rare animal species also found here include the Blandings Turtle and nesting loons. The area is also a good place to see Bald Eagles in the fall, searching for crippled waterfowl.

Winter also affords an opportunity to see other inhabitants. A field trip on skis or snowshoes may allow you to see the Wild Turkey or deer commonly found here.

Directions are as follows: From St. Paul, take I-35E north to County Road 26 in Wyoming. Go west on Co. Road 26 to Co. Road 22. Go south on 22 to Co. Rd. 17. Take County Rd. 17 east to the entrance sign for the Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area (where the blacktop turns south). Turn left at this intersection onto sand road (there is no sign) and proceed north to the small parking lot (there is a sign) for Carlos Avery users, located on the right-hand side of the road (about 3/4 miles in). Maps are also available from the SNA Program. To obtain one, call 297-3288 or 297-2357.

*Editors note: Bob Djupstrom will be our featured speaker at the MNPS monthly meeting on January 9.

JANUARY MEETING DATE CHANGE

Since the first Wednesday in January falls on the second (the day after New Year's Day), the monthly meeting of the Minnesota Native Plant Society has been moved to the following week, on **Wednesday, January 9, 1985. PLEASE NOTE THIS ON YOUR CALENDARS.**

Minnesota Native Plant Society Membership Registration

Mail to: MNPS, 220 Biological Sciences Center, Univ. of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108

_____ New Member

_____ Renewal

Membership Categories:

\$8.00	_____ Individual	\$6.00	_____ Senior (over 62 or retired)
\$10.00	_____ Family (Two or more related individuals at same address)	\$15.00	_____ Institution
\$6.00	_____ Student (Full-time)	\$25.00	_____ Donor

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

U. OF M. CAMPUS ADDRESS: _____

OCTOBER SEED EXCHANGE

The seeds of forty native species were traded at this year's seed exchange held October 1. Thank-you to all those who contributed and packaged seeds.

Thanks are also due to Horace Chamberlain whose donation made possible the printing of the MNPS seed exchange envelopes.

And of course, special thanks to Dr. May Wright who shared her knowledge of germinating native plants.

The seed exchange is an annual event, and Dr. Wright and I are interested in your suggestions for next year's exchange. Please call me or pass on comments to board members.

Chris Soutter - 228-0306

If you have a news item, article or other information that should be included in the next issue of the Minnesota Plant Press, please send it to the editor: Neil Anderson, P.O. Box 80052, St. Paul, MN 55108.

COMO PARK CONSERVATORY TOUR

On Saturday, Feb. 2, at 11 am, there will be a tour of the Como Park Conservatory Greenhouses, focusing on the economic plants. There is a 50 admission charge due to the Azalea show which will be in progress at that time. This tour is for MNPS members. Come and enjoy a breath of spring.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SEPT. 10 - DEC. 10, 1984

<u>Receipts</u>	\$414
(membership dues)	
<u>Expenses</u>	\$80
(printing, mailing, misc.)	
<u>Balance on Hand</u>	\$1391
<u>Reconciliation</u>	
Draft Account	\$756
Savings	\$615
Petty Cash	\$20
	<u>\$1391</u>

A GUIDE TO MINNESOTA PRAIRIES

The Minnesota Natural Heritage Program.
71 pages. \$6.18 (postage and tax included).

A well-presented introduction to the ecology, status and location of prairies in Minnesota. Includes sections on prairie classification, and assessment of the ownership and protection status of Minnesota prairie, and a directory to 40 select prairie preserves across the State. The directory section includes detailed site maps for each preserve and a brief discussion of their location, size and natural features. In addition, original drawings, black and white photographs and maps are used to illustrate the text.

Order copies from:

MN Department of Natural Resources
Outdoor Recreation Information
444 Lafayette Road
Space Center Building - 2nd Floor
St. Paul, MN 55101

NEW EAST ASIAN GRASS ESTABLISHED AT FORT SNELLING

An East Asian grass sparingly grown as an ornamental in this region, Miscanthus sacchariflorus, has escaped cultivation and has become established on the southeast shore of Snelling Lake, Fort Snelling State Park. Its tall, reddish to yellow-brown stems and nearly white plumose inflorescences are conspicuous from the park drive and are especially showy in late fall and winter. The plants occur in a single, continuous stand and, despite the fact that they bear abundant seed, have probably expanded by clonal propagation of their thick horizontal rhizomes. The size of the colony, about 15 to 20 meters across, indicates that it has been present at this site for a number of years.

Although this record is of only anecdotal interest, adventive or naturalized populations of M. sacchariflorus have not been previously reported in Hennepin County and the Twin Cities area, and only three such populations have been recorded in Minnesota, these from Houston, Stearns, and Le Sueur Counties. One additional collection in the University of Minnesota Herbarium was taken from a garden near Mankato. A voucher from Snelling Lake was collected with permission and has been deposited in the University Herbarium.

—Steve and Charles Argue

NEW PRAIRIE DISCOVERED

A new prairie-fen complex has been discovered in southwestern Minnesota near Petersburg by Jerry Kinney, a Minnesota DNR Conservation Officer and Bob Moats, a conservation officer with the Iowa Conservation Commission. It contains a rolling hillside prairie along the Des Moines River. Not only is the prairie in excellent condition, but it has the rare plant prairie bush clover (Hesperis matronalis) as well as a calcareous fen.

SHOWY ORCHIS IN OTTERTAIL COUNTY

The Showy Orchis (Orchis spectabilis L.), now rare throughout Minnesota, has been reported from Houston and Fillmore to Blue Earth, Meeker, and Chisago counties, and in Pope county (Morley, 1966, Spring Flora of Minnesota). It has also been collected in southern Douglas county (University of Minnesota Herbarium data). In May of 1984 we found several specimens growing in a moist depression within a basswood, oak, elm community in Ottertail county near Clitherall Lake. This site represents the northernmost record of this species in Minnesota.

Steve and Charles Argue

SPRING FLORA REPRINTED

Spring Flora of Minnesota (including common cultivated plants) by Thomas Morley. The University of Minnesota Press. 1966, reprinted in 1969 and 1984. Paperback available at Books Underground, University of Minnesota, Student Center, St. Paul, MN 55108.
(Price approximately \$7.00)

This book of keys, species and genera descriptions is an excellent companion to illustrated guides, forcing attention to details and assuring one of accurate identification of spring flora. It is also used in taxonomy courses offered through the Botany Department at the University of Minnesota. A cutoff of June 7th has been used to define those plants flowering in spring. Spring Flora covers 662 native and naturalized plants along with 194 commonly cultivated ones.

SPECIES STATUS SHEET

CRISTATELLA JAMESII T. & G

Cristatella Jamesii T. & G.

FAMILY: Capparidaceae

COMMON NAME: *Cristatella*

STATE STATUS: Endangered

FEDERAL STATUS: None

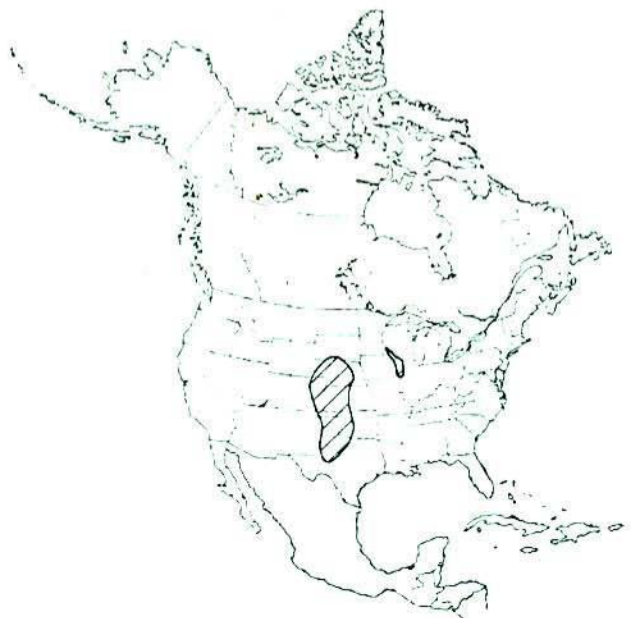
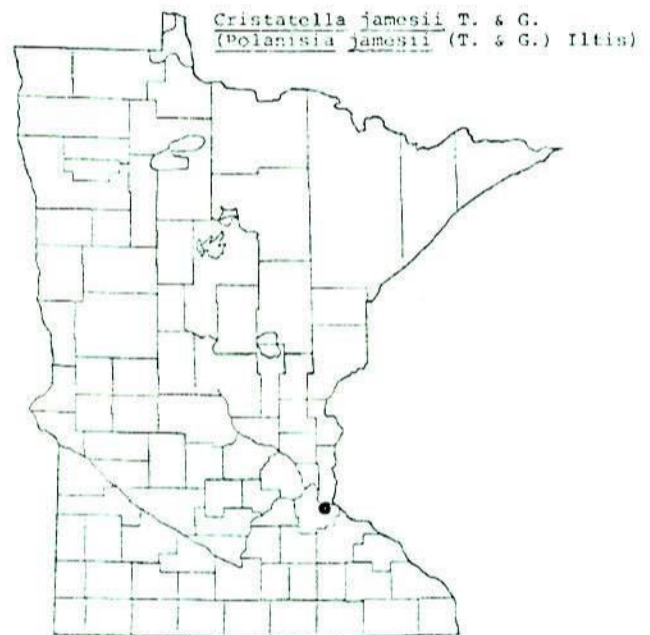
BASIS FOR MINNESOTA STATUS: This species was discovered in Minnesota in 1978 in a sand dune complex near Hastings (Dakota County). Inventories of comparable sand dune habitats in southeastern Minnesota have failed to locate any additional populations. It is possible that this singular occurrence may represent the extent of this species in Minnesota.

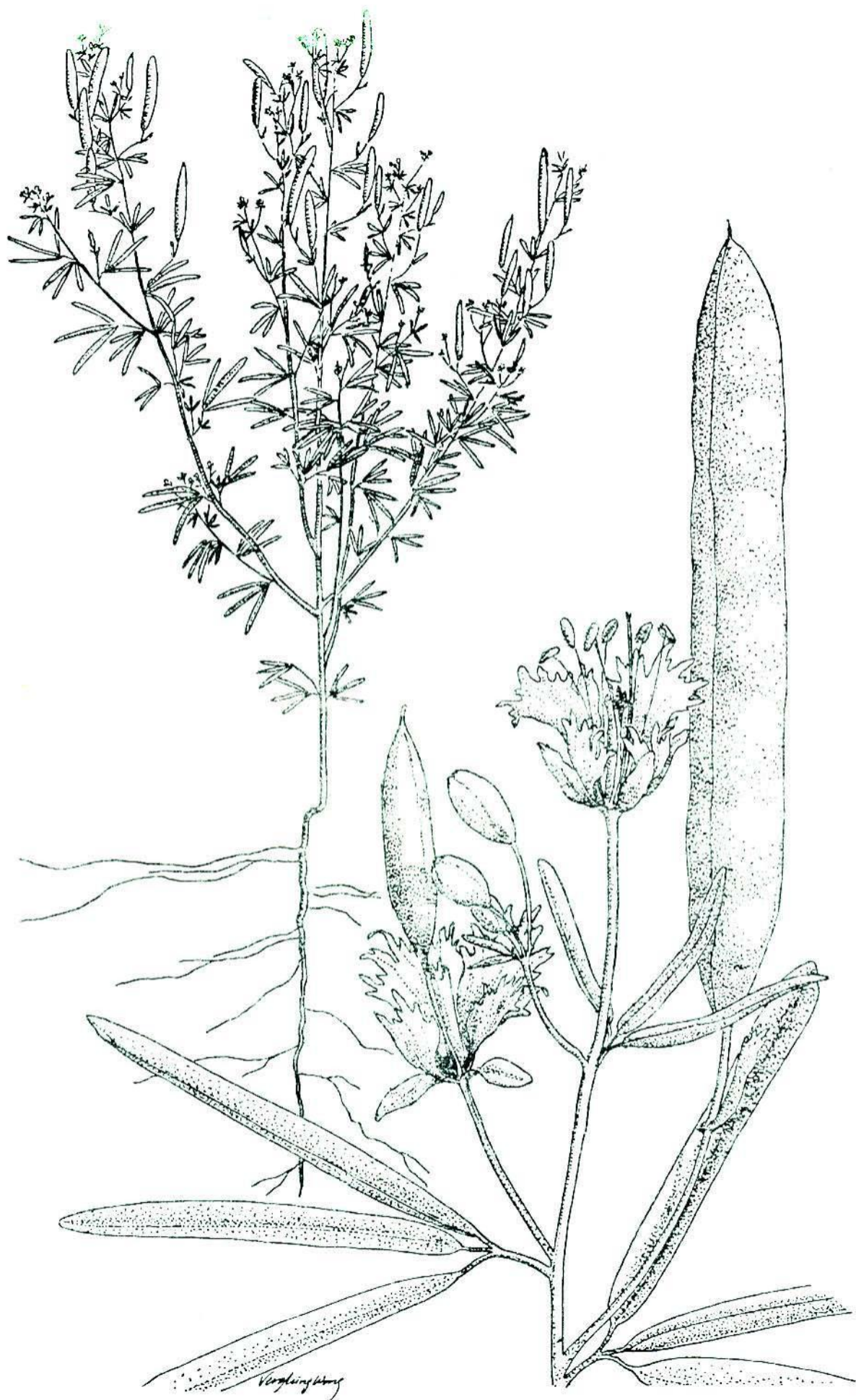
The Minnesota population is part of an isolated midwestern range that is widely disjunct from the main range of the species in the lower Great Plains. The distribution of *C. jamesii* within its midwestern range is quite local, and fewer than a dozen populations have been reported. It is listed as endangered in Iowa, threatened in Illinois, and is apparently absent from sand deposits in the Mississippi and Illinois River Valleys. These habitats are limited in extent, and are often heavily exploited for their commercial, industrial or residential potential. For example, the major portion of the habitat occupied by the Minnesota population has been degraded by off-road-vehicles, sand quarrying, pine plantations and most recently, a housing development. A smaller portion of this population occurs on adjacent public land where it receives some protection. It is uncertain, however, if the succession is also a potential threat, because *C. jamesii* apparently requires unstabilized dunes and blowouts.

PREFERRED HABITAT IN MINNESOTA: The Minnesota population occurs in a sand dune complex that is situated in a 2 mile long coulee. There is associated sand prairie and sand savanna habitat that may also serve as suitable habitat. The plants appear to require open sand such as in blowouts where there is little, if any competing vegetation. It occurs in association with the closely related, but more common, *Polanisia graveolens* (clammyweed), as well as

typical sand dune vegetation such as *Calamovilfa longifolia* (sandreed), *Petalostemum villosum* (silky prairie-clover) and *Liatris punctata* (dotted blazing-star).

SELECTED REFERENCES: Iltis, H. H. 1958. Studies in the Capparidaceae IV. *Polanisia* Raf. Brittonia 10: 33-58.





GULF CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

The Gulf Oil Corporation, a subsidiary of Chevron Corporation, is now accepting nominations for its 1985 Conservation Awards program. This nationwide competition honors individuals and non-profit organizations who distinguish themselves through their conservation work.

The program seeks to honor citizens and organizations of the United States which have had little or no national recognition and to encourage younger conservationists as well as veterans with long records of noteworthy achievements. The program is also intended to enhance public awareness of sound conservation principles and practices.

Gulf presents 20 Conservation Awards each year: 10 to professional conservationists employed by non-profit organizations and 10 to private citizens for their personal contributions to the preservation of renewable natural resources. Awards are also made to several local, regional and national non-profit organizations.

Past honorees include organizations such as the National Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Foundation and the Izaak Walton League of America. Individuals singled out are less well-known, but their impact on conservation matters has been profound: people like 1984 winners Tom J. Cade, of Ithaca, New York, Professor of Ornithology at Cornell University, and the "spiritual father" of the peregrine falcon in North America; Rex Moses, of Athens, Tennessee, retired trough and dairy farmer, and leader of soil conservation efforts for 40 years; and Betsy Sluder of Armonk, New York, whose work has helped to protect and preserve the Mianus River and its wetlands.

Each recipient is awarded \$400 and an engraved bronze plaque at a banquet to be held next Spring in Washington, D.C.

Nominations should include a letter of recommendation which provides pertinent information and documentation on the nominee's accomplishments and the nominee's address and telephone number. At least two supplementary letters of endorsement also should be submitted for each nomination. Selection of awardees is made by an independent committee of distinguished conservationists.

Nominations for 1985 Gulf Oil Awards should be submitted by November 30, 1984, to Gulf Oil Conservation Awards, P.O. Box 1166, Pittsburgh, PA 15230.

ANNOUNCING A SPRING HORTICULTURE TOUR

The University of Minnesota is sponsoring a tour of the Gardens of the Delaware Valley on May 4-11, 1985.

MNPS members are invited to participate in exploring the "cradle of American Horticulture." The emphasis of the trip will be on garden styles from a historic and aesthetic point of view.

The trip includes several days in Wilmington, Delaware, to visit the Hagley Museum—a garden and mansion located on the scenic Brandywine River; the mansion of Alfred J. DuPont with its unsurpassed garden in the French formal style; and Longwood Gardens, America's finest display garden. In addition, the tour includes several days in Philadelphia to visit the Japanese Garden, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Colonial Garden, and more. This is also a unique opportunity to be part of specially arranged tours of private gardens in Philadelphia not open to the public.

Leading the tour is Roberta Sladky, director of the College of Biological Science's greenhouse plant collection. While completing her master's degree, she lived and worked in the Delaware Valley and interned at several of the gardens to be visited.

\$775 (approximate) includes all lodging, land transportation in Delaware and Pennsylvania, three dinners, two lunches, two receptions, on-site lectures, and one pre-trip orientation. Participants will check in and meet at the hotel in Wilmington on May 4.

Air transportation is extra and may be arranged directly with Eden Travel, telephone 944-1676, toll free in Minnesota 1-800-862-6077, out of Minnesota 1-800-328-6152.

For further information or reservations call 376-7500 or write to:
Study and Travel Adventure
University of Minnesota
180 Westbrook Hall
77 Pleasant St. S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

WILDFLOWER SEEDLING EXCHANGE

In conjunction with the monthly MNPS meeting on May 1, 1985, there will be a wildflower seedling and plant exchange. Be sure to plant those seeds from the seed exchange and bring in extra seedlings to share. Watch for details in the spring newsletter.

POSTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Minnesota Chapter of the Nature Conservancy has announced the positions available in 1985 under its Small Grants program, Internship Program and the Peregrine Falcon Introduction project.

The Small Grants Program is designed to encourage scientific reserach on lands protected by the Nature Conservancy (TNC). The goal of the program is to enable TNC to understand and manage its lands better.

Ten positions are available in 1985 under the Internship Program. These include: Preserve Design/Entomologist Intern, Rare Plant Intern, Land Use History/Interpreter Intern, Natural Areas Assistant, and Fall or Spring prescribed Burn Crews. The deadline for applications is Feb. 15, 1985.

If you are interested in applying, send a resume and letter of application to: Margaret K. Kohring, Director of Land Stewardship, Minnesota Field Office, The Nature Conservancy, 328 East Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

1985 CALENDAR OF NATURE'S EVENTS NOW AVAILABLE

The 1985 Calendar of Nature's events is now available from River Bend Nature Center in Faribault, Minnesota. Each day highlights special events in Nature to watch for which are actual field notes taken by Orwin A. Rustad, Naturalist. The calendar is illustrated by Dan Milburt, Wildlife Artist, in enchanting pen and ink drawings of animal and landscapes. This year, some useful notes have been added such as when to plant and harvest garden flowers and vegetables, when to prune trees and shrubs without damage, best times to put up bird houses and other helpful tips, plus each monthly drawing includes a narrative paragraph interpreting the wildlife features. For your home and for friends and relatives, this is \$4.95 enjoyably spent. All proceeds will be used for educational programs at River Bend Natue Center. To order, mail a check for \$4.95 plus \$1.00 for postage to River Bend Nature Center, Box 265, Faribault, MN 55021

THANK YOU

Special thanks are extended to May Wright and Chris Soutter for planning, organizing and leading the seed exchange in October. It was a great success. Also, thanks to everyone who collected seeds to be exchanges.

Harriet Mason is also to be commended for the superb job she did in acquainting all of us with the ferns and their allies at the November meeting. May Wright added her special knowledge of the ferns and we were again treated to some excellent photography from the Nature Camera Club Exhibition.

Jan Jannsen introduced us to the fascinating realm of Bryophytes - from the patterns of their cells to their historical patterns in bogs and fens. Thank you for a most interesting talk at our December meeting.

ALASKA PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following two publications on research done in Glacier Bay, Alaska are now available:

Proceedings of the First Glacier Bay Science Symposium, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, September 23-26, 1983. (the Symposium was titled "A Century after Muir - the Scientific Adventure"). Wood, James D., Jr., Maria Gladzissewski, Ian A. Worly, and Gary Vequist, editors, 1984. by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Science Publications Office, Atlanta, Georgia. 95 pp.

Bibliography of Research and Exploration of Glacier Bay, Alaska, 1798 to 1984 by Doris Howe in 1984 by U.S Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Science Publications Office, Atlanta, Georgia. 33 pp.

Copies of these two publications can be obtained by writing:

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve
Bartlett Cove
Gustavus, Alaska 99826

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220 Biological Sciences Center,
1445 Gortner Avenue,
University of Minnesota,
St. Paul, Minnesota, 55108

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 2 **NOTE:** MNPS monthly meeting moved to next week, on January 9.
- Jan. 9 MNPS monthly meeting: "Minnesota: Scientific and Natural Areas Program", presented by Bob Djupstrom
- Feb. 2 Tour of the Como Park Conservatory Greenhouses focusing on the economically important plants housed there. 50¢ admission charge due to the Azalea show
- Feb. 6 MNPS monthly meeting: Peg Kohring will speak on "Costa Rican National Parks."
- March 6 MNPS monthly meeting: Welby Smith will be speaking on "Minnesota Ginseng."
- March 15 next Minnesota Plant Press deadline
- May 1 MNPS monthly meeting will also include a wildflower seedling exchange
- MNPS monthly meetings are at 7:30 pm in the Palmer Classroom Building, Room 10, University of Minnesota, St Paul Campus

MNPS DIRECTORY

Officers — 1984/1985

Welby Smith, President	297-2367
Steve Eggers, Vice-President	725-7772
Deb Brown, Secretary	378-2595
Roger Eliason, Treasurer	379-2785
Evelyn Moyle, Director-at-large	474-4891
May Wright, Director-at-large	429-7674

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Jan Grew, Publicity	776-2368
Barbara Coffin, Conservation	297-2367
Neil Anderson, Newsletter	644-5806
Nancy Sather,	
Legislation Spokesperson	722-6055
Sandy Hansen, Typist	645-7318

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