

# NATIVE PLANT NEWS



VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1      NEWSLETTER OF THE MINNESOTA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY      SPRING, 1982

## Help Conserve Minnesota's Rare Plants

The Endangered Species Act, established in 1973, is the only national program to conserve rare plants; reauthorization of a strong Act is essential to survival of these valuable species. Conservationists can make this happen by working together to lobby Congress.

The Fish and Wildlife Service can protect endangered species only as long as it has legal permission to spend tax dollars for this purpose. This permission, or authorization, expires on 1 October 1982; Congress must pass a new law if the program is to continue.

Because we are few in number, plant conservationists must work particularly hard to make sure Congress does not eliminate or reduce the Act's protections for plants. During the reauthorization process, Congress may change or repeal any part of the Act.

Many development interests have already begun lobbying Congress to weaken the entire program. Most of the proposals would undermine provisions in the Act intended to protect species' habitats from inadvertent destruction as a result of inadequately planned development projects. Other changes would slow efforts to list additional disappearing species under the Act. Worst of all, some congressmen, administration officials, and development interests are working to totally eliminate plants and invertebrates from the Act's protection.

Reauthorization of a strong and effective Endangered Species Act will not be easy. It will require the efforts of a large number of individuals and organizations. With your help we can save the Endangered Species Act and the many ani-

mals and plants that depend on it for their continued survival.

If you are willing to help, please write letters and make telephone calls supporting the reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act to your congressmen and senators.

Contact Barbara Coffin for more information on the Endangered Species Act and for addresses of congressmen and senators.



## June Meeting Agenda

The 2 June 1982 meeting of the Minnesota Native Plant Society will feature first a tour, then the lecture.

At 6:30 p.m., Dr. Robert Mullin, Professor of Horticulture, will lead a tour of Saint Paul campus gardens and greenhouses. Meet at the corner of Gortner and Folwell to begin the tour of prairie plants, woodland wildflowers, and horticultural gardens. These plants have been raised by students under the direction of Dr. Mullin.

At 7:30 p.m., Dr. May Wright and Steve Kelley, both professional wildflower growers, will address the Society in 10 Palmer Classroom Building. Dr. Wright will describe techniques of raising meadow and boreal plants, and Mr. Kelley will speak about propagation of deciduous wildflowers.

# Minnesota Native Plant Society Formed — Committee Reports

Young and old, hobbyists, students, and professionals alike have been flocking to monthly meetings of the new Minnesota Native Plant Society. They're a diverse bunch. While some are newcomers to the study of botany, others are old hands at it. Each one brings something unique to the group.

They have much in common. They're committed to working together to

- Conserve all native plants,
- Educate the public to appreciate and preserve plant life,
- Sponsor research and publications on plant life in the state,
- Promote preservation of native plants by legislation,
- Cultivate native plants, and
- Establish suitable sanctuaries and natural areas.

And together they put on some great programs, field trips, and activities.

Who's responsible for this phenomenon? Peg Kohring, Emily Nietering, and Heidi Van't Hof, transplants from the Michigan Botanical Club, along with Jan Grew and Chris Soutter, first formed and acted on the idea. They organized the first meeting, held on 3 February 1982, at which time they assembled a temporary steering committee. This committee is leading the group until formal elections can take place in October 1982.

In the meantime, anyone with ideas for activities, lectures, or the newsletter is urged to contact those committee members, as listed here:

## Conservation & Education -

Barb Coffin  
Dennis Rothenmaier

## Membership -

Emily Nietering  
Heidi Van't Hof

## Newsletter -

Marilyn Andersen  
Judy Horsnell

## Program -

Peg Kohring  
Welby Smith

## Publicity -

Janet Grew  
Chris Soutter

## MEMBERSHIP

We proudly report that MNPS now has 63 single and 50 family paid memberships. Members will continue to receive the newsletter (unfortunately, due to postage costs, non-members will receive only the first gratuitously) with notices of meetings, speakers, field trips, native plant conservation news, and other special events relating to the Society's aims and interests. For membership information, please write: MNPS, 220 BSC, 1445 Gortner Ave., Saint Paul, Minn. 55108. Membership dues are \$8.00 single and \$10.00 family.



Pin-cushion cactus  
(*Mamillaria coccinea*)

Bonnie Heidel

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT 30 April 1982

### Receipts

Membership dues	\$800.00	
Draft Interest	1.23	\$801.23

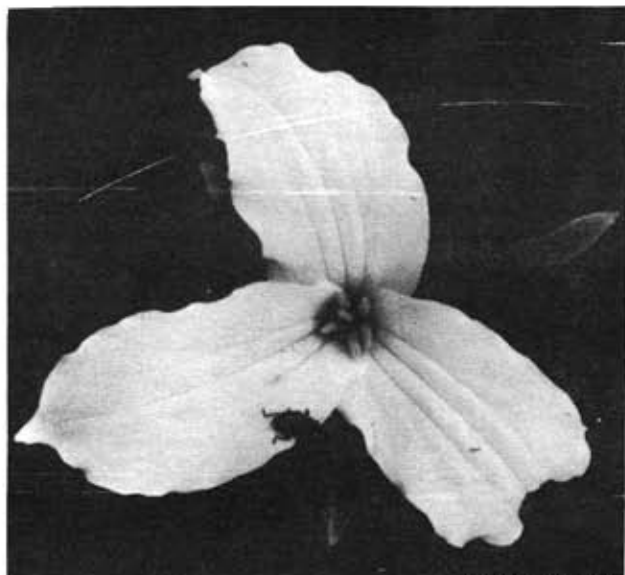
### Expenses

Postage	62.34	
Printing	23.75	
Supplies	14.09	
Check Fee	7.12	107.30

Balance on Hand		\$693.93
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### RECONCILIATION

Draft Account	646.73	
Savings Account	10.00	
Petty Cash	37.20	\$693.93



Audrey Engels

## CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION

The Conservation and Education Committee met for the first time on 23 March. A list of possible projects was developed and it was decided to call all individuals who had indicated an interest in working on this committee to poll their ideas for potential projects. At this point, six general project ideas have been identified:

1. develop educational materials to accompany Native Plant Society field trips;
2. sponsor or cosponsor workshops on native plants;
3. promote letter writing campaigns (e.g. on the reauthorization of the federal endangered species act);
4. develop a slide/tape show on "Why Conserve Native Plants";
5. produce educational materials on Minnesota's native plants to be distributed on posters, calendars, postcards, T-shirts, or stationary; and
6. adopt an area or species that needs help because it is endangered or threatened by destruction.

The committee will meet again on April 27th to decide which projects to begin work on. If you are interested in working on this committee, call either Barbara Coffin or Dennis Rothenmeier

## PUBLICITY

Publicity for MNPS meetings this winter consisted of

- press releases sent to metropolitan newspapers
- notices sent to environmental organizations for placement in newsletters
- flyers sent to college biology departments, libraries, nature centers, museums, and other organizations for posting
- postcard reminders sent to interested individuals after the first meeting.

Even though the response seems overwhelming, there may be potentially interested people who are not yet aware of MNPS. If new places to post flyers or to send newsletter notices come to mind, please call Chris Soutter at with your suggestions.

Perhaps the most effective way of spreading the news about MNPS is by word-of-mouth. Pass the word!

## The Editors' Desk

We would like to include your art work and black and white photos in our next issue. We also invite your letters to the editor and your book reviews to print as space permits. Deadline is 10 July 1982. Make your contribution by calling Judith Horsnell at or Marilyn Andersen at .

Help name our newsletter. Submit your ideas. We will consider all entries and announce the winning entry at our big fall meeting. Mail suggestions to Judith Horsnell,

. The deadline is 15 August, 1982.

A huge thank-you for the many helpful ideas, the prodigious hours of volunteer labor, and the generous donations of talent, skill and experience that have made this newsletter possible. It's clear that there's a savvy, spunky bunch of native plant lovers in this Society. Keep up the good work, folks.

# Field Trip Schedule

Rain or shine, these trips are on!  
Plans have developed quite nicely, as  
you can see below.

Pretrip sessions will be held for several of the field trips:

- Minn. River Outcrops pretrip -  
June 11
- Mississippi Float Trip pretrip -  
June 18
- Schaefer Prairie pretrip -  
July 30; and
- Whitewater pretrip -  
August 13.

For further information on these pretrips or even the trips themselves, call Peg Kohring at . Meeting places are still being scheduled.

Let's keep in mind, as we explore these sites, one of our foremost goals as a Society -- the conservation and preservation of native plant species. An appropriate code of ethics for each of us to observe must include these tenets:

1. Plant collecting is prohibited.
2. Discretion must be exercised in removal of fruits, flowers, bark, or other plant parts.
3. Areas visited must not be damaged or degraded because of our actions or our presence.

Responsibility for adhering to this code rests with each individual. Make the world healthy for plants.

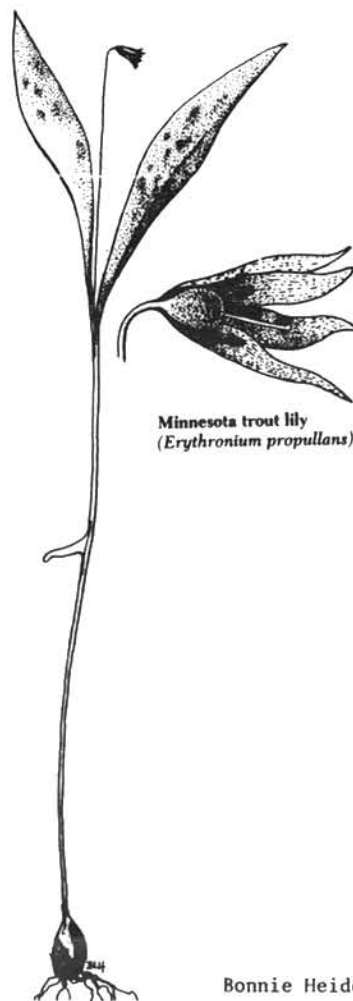


NERSTRAND WOODS - Rice County

DATE: Saturday, 22 May 1982

TIME: 10 a.m. to mid-afternoon

LEADERS: Harriet Mason and Welby Smith. Harriet is a doctoral candidate at the University of Minnesota who is studying Nerstrand Woods for her dissertation. Welby Smith is the Heritage Program Botanist with the Department of Natural Resources.



Bonnie Heidel

DESCRIPTION: This is your chance to see, photograph and learn about the spring wildflowers of Nerstrand Woods State Park. We expect to see dogtooth violets, trilliums, mayapples, spring beauty, bellwort, hepatica, and anemones as well as learn about the maple-basswood forest, referred to in Minnesota as Big Woods.

MEETING PLACE: From the Twin Cities take 35W south to the Faribault exit on Highway 60. Take Highway 60 east through Faribault to Highway 20; go north on Highway 20 through Cannon City, and just north of Cannon City take 27 east to Highway 246. Take Highway 246 north to the entrance of the Nerstrand Woods State Park, where we will be meeting in the parking lot of the picnic grounds. Be prepared to pay the entrance to the park.

WHAT TO BRING: Field clothes, walking shoes, camera, a lunch, rain coat, and something to drink.



## MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY GRANITE OUTCROP

TRIP- Renville County

DATE: Saturday, 12 June 1982

TIME: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LEADERS: Emily Nietering. Emily is a graduate student at the University of Minnesota. She is surveying the flora of the granite outcrops along the Minnesota River for her master's thesis.

DESCRIPTION: The wide Minnesota River Valley was formed by the meltwaters from the glaciers as they retreated northward. This great volume of water dug its way through the gravel and outwash deposited by the glaciers, down to the underlying bedrock, exposing "knobs" or outcrops of this granite in the valley floor. The outcrops are broad, flat expanses of rock, allowing plants to grow only in cracks, or in pockets where enough soil accumulates to allow growth in the spring while moisture is still present. We will visit two outcrop sites near Morton and North Redwood. Species we're likely to see include small prickly pear, long-leaf bluets, sleepy catchfly, rock jasmine, and fameflower, as well as many prairie species.

MEETING PLACE: Carpool at Ridgedale Center at the Cat lot near Donaldsons, off Highway 12. We will arrive in Morton at 11:30 a.m. at the junction of Highway 19 and 71 if you wish to meet us there.

WHAT TO BRING: Lunch and drink, hiking boots (cactus attack those who wear sneakers!), camera, sun protection.

REST FACILITIES: Morton or Redwood Falls.

PRETRIP SESSION: 11 June 1982.

## MISSISSIPPI FLOAT TRIP - Wabasha County

DATE: Saturday, 19 June 1982

TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LEADERS: Dan Engstrom and Welby Smith. Dan is working on the peatlands in Lab-

rador for his doctoral dissertation at the University of Minnesota. Welby is the Heritage Botanist for the Department of Natural Resources.

DESCRIPTION: Float the Mississippi River by canoe from Kellogg to survey the alluvial woods, floodplain, and marshes for wildflowers. We hope to see the American lotus in the backwaters.

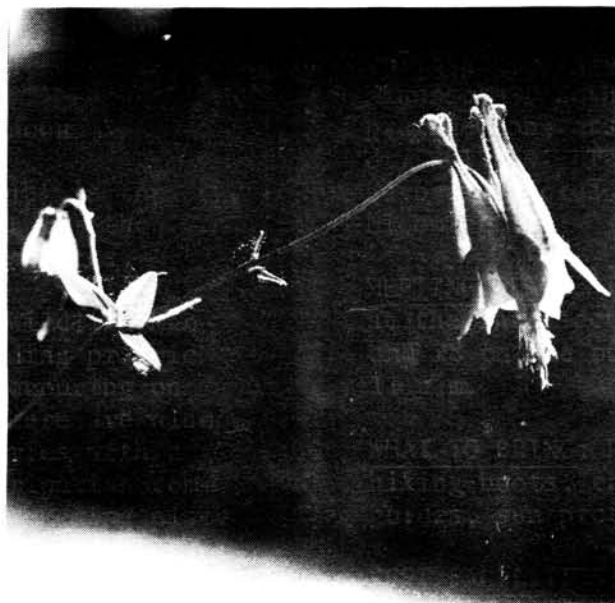
NOTE: Reservations are required to coordinate canoes; call Dan Engstrom during the evening at \_\_\_\_\_ if you plan to go. Those without canoes can ride with someone else.

MEETING PLACE: Kellogg City Park. Take Highway 61 south of the Twin Cities through Wabasha to the Kellogg exit. Go east (left) to the town of Kellogg; the park is just before you come into town. Note: despite what you think, this drive takes about 2½ hours.

WHAT TO BRING: Your canoe, paddles, lunch, and something to drink. Wear long pants, and bring rubber boots and mosquito repellent. Be prepared for sun or rain.

REST FACILITIES: Weaver, Kellogg or Wabasha.

PRETRIP SESSION: 18 June 1982.



Audrey Engels

SCHAEFER PRAIRIE - McLeod County

DATE: Saturday, 31 July 1982

TIME: 9 a.m. - midafternoon

LEADER: Dianne Plunkett. Dianne is a wildflower enthusiast, Vice-president of the Nature Camera Club, and a medical doctor.

DESCRIPTION: This joint trip of the Nature Camera Club and the Minnesota Native Plant Society to Schaefer Prairie will "focus" on photographing native prairie plants. Over 270 plants have been recorded at Schaefer Prairie, including Indian paint brush, great lobelia, closed gentian, prairie dripseed, big bluestem, Indian grass, yellow star grass, cord grass, and many more.

MEETING PLACE: Meet at the Cat lot of the Ridgedale Shopping Center on Highway 12 and Plymouth Road.

WHAT TO BRING: Lunch, camera, sturdy shoes, lunch, and something to drink.

NOTE: Be prepared for poison ivy!

REST FACILITIES: Glenwood or Brownston.

PRETRIP SESSION: **31 July** 1982.

WHITEWATER WILDLIFE AREA - Winona Co.

DATE: Saturday, August 14, 1982

TIME: 10 a.m. - midafternoon

LEADER: Welby Smith. Welby is the Heritage Program Botanist for the Department of Natural Resources.

DESCRIPTION: Whitewater Wildlife Management Area has outstanding prairie and savanna communities occurring on river-deposited sand. There are also steep bluff or goat prairies with a variety of woodland and riparian communities. The site is a meeting place of typical northern species such as jack pine, woodland, and eastern prairie species.

MEETING PLACE: Kellogg City Park. Take Highway 61 south from the Twin Cities through Wabasha to the Kellogg Exit. Go east (or left) to the town of Kellogg; the park is just before you come into town. Note: this trip to Kellogg takes 2½ hours from the Twin Cities.

WHAT TO BRING: Lunch, something to drink, sun and rain protection, mosquito repellent, and sturdy shoes.

REST FACILITIES: Camping sites are available at Whitewater State Park.

PRETRIP SESSION: 13 August 1982.

STRANDNESS AND STAFFANSON PRAIRIES - Pope and Douglas Counties

DATE: Saturday, 21 August 21 1982

TIME: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

LEADER: Ellen Ordway. Ellen, an Associate Professor of Biology at the University of Minnesota-Morris, is interested in insects and their relationship to plants. She has been doing field research for several years at Strandness Prairie, and has a wealth of knowledge to share about prairie insects and plants.

DESCRIPTION: Strandness and Staffanson are two prairie jewels located in the rolling glacial terrain of west central Minnesota. Both feature a variety of prairie habitats, from wet marshes to dry uplands. Tall prairie grasses and several species of wildflower should be blooming.

MEETING PLACE: The Cannonball Restaurant at the intersection of State Highways 55 and 28 on the outskirts of Glenwood, at 11 a.m.

WHAT TO BRING: Picnic lunch, rain gear, hiking boots, camera, binoculars, field guides, sun protection.

REST FACILITIES/ACCOMODATIONS: Glenwood, Alexandria.

SAVAGE FEN AND NSP PRAIRIE - Scott  
and Dakota Counties

DATE: Saturday, 11 September 1982

TIME: 10 a.m. - midafternoon

LEADER: Welby Smith. Welby is the Botanist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource's Heritage Program.

DESCRIPTION: The first stop will be a deep-soil mesic prairie within the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. It is owned by Northern States Power but is leased by the Refuge for management purposes. The flora here is typical of the more eastern prairie. Later, the trip will go to a calcareous fen plant community with a diverse flora of calcareous-loving species. The fen has some northern relic species not found in other plant communities.

MEETING PLACE: Meet at the "park and ride" parking lot on Cliff Road in Burnsville. Cliff Road runs between Highway 13 and Interstate 35W, and the parking lot is a short distance from 35W.

WHAT TO BRING: Lunch, something to drink, rubber boots (both areas are wet), insect repellent, and sun and rain protection.

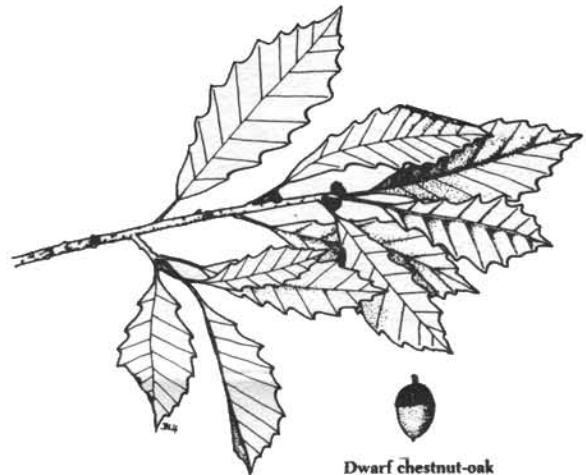
REST FACILITIES: Burnsville or Savage.

basswood trees before the leaves fall, as well as to learn about the big woods forest.

MEETING PLACE: Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot, at the corner of Brown Road and County Road 6 (2 miles north of Long Lake on Brown Road).

WHAT TO BRING: Rain Gear, sweater, boots or sneakers, binoculars, field guides, and shoulder bag or small pack.

REST FACILITIES: In the church or Long Lake.



Dwarf chestnut-oak  
(*Quercus prinoides*)

Bonnie Heidel

WOLSFELD WOODS - Hennepin County

DATE: Saturday, 2 October 1982

TIME: 1 to 3 p.m.

LEADER: Keith Wendt. Keith is the plant ecologist for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Minnesota Natural Heritage Program.

DESCRIPTION: Wolsfeld Woods is a magnificent example of the big woods forest that once covered much of the metro area. This is your chance to enjoy the fall colors of the vibrant yellow maple and

## Slides Requested

In anticipation of the first annual meeting of MNPS in October, plans are being made for publicizing the organization in the Minneapolis Tribune's Picture Magazine in early September.

Slides of native plants or MNPS field trips are needed for this photoessay. Please send slides that you would like to have considered for the Picture article to:

Dianne Plunkett  
2604 Sumac Ridge  
White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110

Slides need to be received by June 9th. Thirty representative slides will be chosen to be submitted in July for the article. All slides will be returned to the owners.

## Native Seed Sources

Spring finds many native plant-lovers not only out spying on spring ephemerals, but also busy working on their gardens at home. Growing native plants can not only be personally satisfying, but also a good way to stimulate your neighbors interest in them as well.

Dianne Plunkett, a member of our Society, has kindly supplied this list of Minnesota suppliers of native plants for our gardening convenience.

Dundee Garden Center  
16800 Hwy. 55  
Wayzata, Minn.  
559-4016

For best selection, come in late April or early May.

Ferndale Nursery & Greenhouse  
P.O.Box 218  
Askov, Minn. 55704  
1-838-3636

Rice Creek Gardens  
1315 66th Ave. N.E.  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55432  
Betty Ann Mech  
574-1197

Shady Acres Nursery  
R.R. 2 Box 127  
Chaska, Minn. 55318  
James & Theresa Mieseler  
466-3391

Windsor Landscaping Inc.  
2600 White Bear Ave.  
White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110  
777-5003

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
3675 Arboretum Drive  
Chaska, Minn. 55318  
443-2460

The 1982 spring plant sale will be held Saturday, 15 May 1982.

Orchid Gardens  
6700 Splithand Road  
Grand Rapids, Minn. 55744

Their catalog is 50¢. The owner is taking 1983 off to write a book on wildflower gardening and no orders taken after 20 Oct 1982.

Prairie Restorations Inc.  
P.O.Box 327  
Princeton, Minn. 55371

Busse Garden Center  
635 E. 7th Street  
Cokato, Minn. 55321





## Volunteers Needed

Lawyer - Minnesota Native Plant Society needs help in incorporating as a non-profit organization and then on a consulting basis should future problems arise. Contact Peg Kohring .

Prairie Transplant - A spring forbes planting day is scheduled for mid-May at Hyland Park Prairie Management Area. Call Hennepin County Park Reserve District Volunteer Services soon. Phone .

Noerenberg Memorial Garden - This special area will again need weekend attendants between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Call Hennepin County Park Reserve District, Volunteer Services soon. Phone .

Woodland Wildflower Transplant - Eastman Nature Center Area will schedule a woodland wildflower transplant. One person living close to Elm Creek Park is needed for project coordination duties. Call Hennepin County Park Reserve District, Volunteer Services now. Phone .



Audrey Engels



## Rescuing Wildflowers

The Minnesota River Valley Audubon Club is starting a Wildflower Rescue Team. Its purpose is to gather seeds and transplant wildflowers from areas to be disturbed by construction. If you are aware of an area in the south and west suburbs of Minneapolis from which plants may be removed, we urge you to call Larry or Randy Baum at . They would also appreciate helpful advice on procedures for this kind of activity.

## Related Events

- May 8, 9 Spring Tree Planting Weekend. Public participation desired for the North Hennepin Regional Trail Corridor. Contact Lee Ann Landstrom, .
- May 11 First Minnesota Wildflower Workshop. 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, at Chanhassen. Fee is \$3. Contact Ione Strandberg, .
- May 18 Is It Edible? Will It Heal Me? 7:30 p.m. Dr. Robert D. Bergad presents notes on uses of Minnesota's plants. Natural History Lecture Series, Bell Museum Auditorium, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Fee: \$1.

To list items in the Native Plant News, call Marilyn Andersen at .

Native Plant News is published quarterly by the Minnesota Native Plant Society, 220 Biological Sciences Center, 1445 Gortner Avenue, University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108. Temporary co-chairpersons, by committee, include Barb Coffin and Denny Rothenmaier, Conservation and Education; Emily Neitering and Heidi Van't Hof, Membership; Judy Horsnell and Marilyn Andersen, Newsletter; Peg Kohring and Welby Smith, Program; and Janet Grew and Chris Soutter, Publicity. Next deadline for submissions for publication is 10 July 1982. Call Judy Horsnell or Marilyn Andersen for further information regarding the newsletter.

Minnesota Native Plant Society  
220 Biological Sciences Center  
1445 Gortner Avenue  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul, MN 55108



*Wild Blueberries*

D. (Shuby) Shubat