

Volume 4, Issue 5, 2006

July 2006

Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Monthly Web Magazine



Hooray for the Red, White and Blue!

Native Plants in Patriotic Colors

Sparky Talks to Grandma

A Poppy Named Shirley

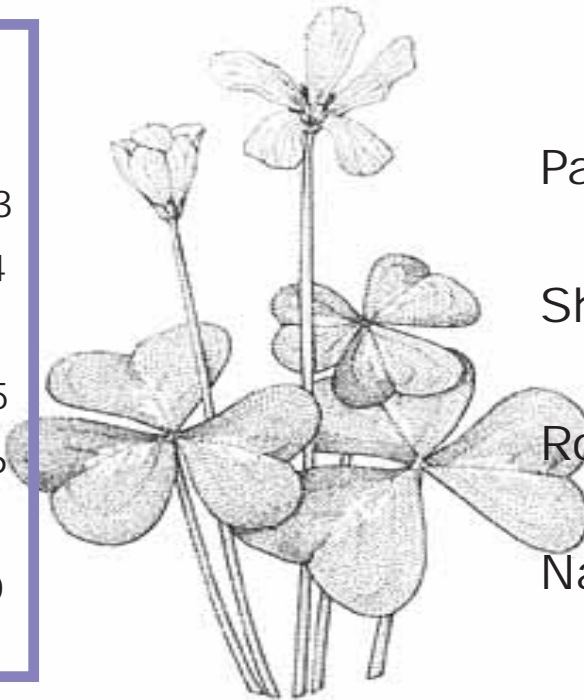
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Northwest Native Plant Journal

A Bi-Monthly Web Magazine

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Jennifer Rehm, Editor, author, webmaster for
The Wild Garden: Hansen's Northwest Native Plant Database
website: www.nwplants.com
e-Mail: chillipepper6@comcast.net

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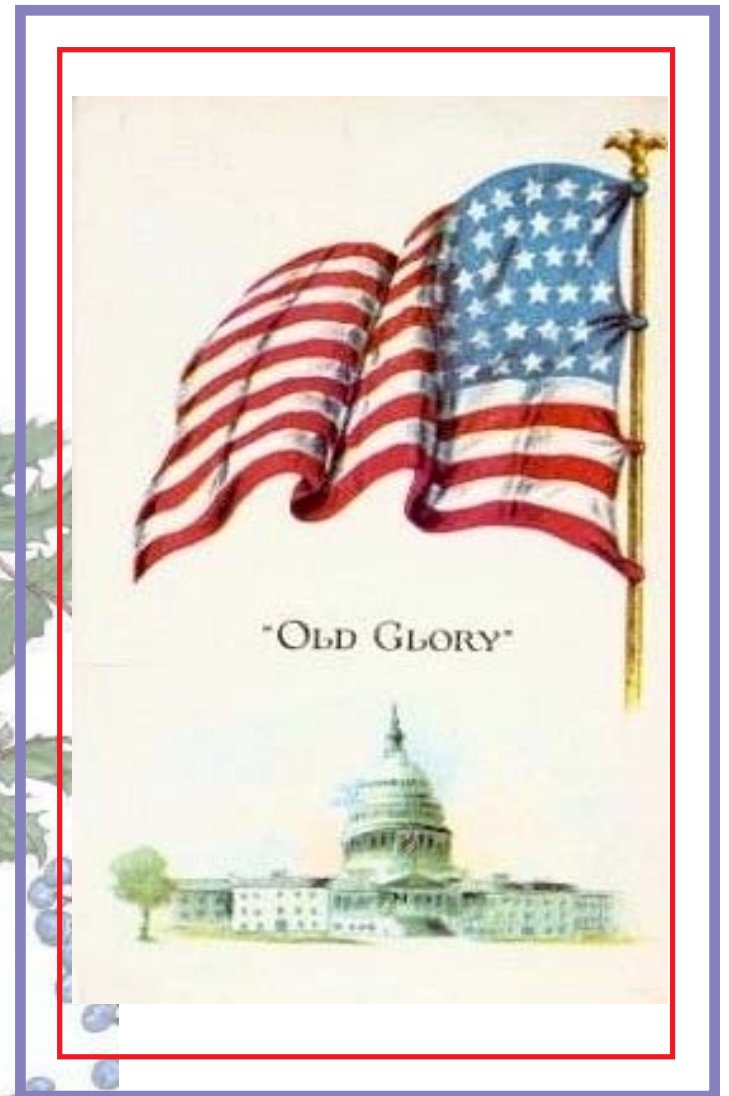
About this Web Magazine

This Journal was created under the direction of Wally Hansen – a dedicated Grower, Aficionado and Passionate Lover of Northwest Native Plants.

This Journal is not 'commercial.' Our goals are:

- A** — To generate interest, even passion, concerning the magnificent Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest.
- B** — To help you create your own Native Plant Gardens, large or small, for home or work.
- C** — To help you propagate and "grow on" those species that interest you the most.
- D** — To inform both Home Gardeners and interested Professionals of many disciplines concerning trends and news items from my little corner of the world.
- E** — To help the reader enjoy native plants more by understanding the historical and cultural role of native plants (i.e.—use by Native Americans, Pioneers, Early Botanists, etc.).

Old patriotic postcard



On the Cover

Three favorite natives in red, white and blue.

Blueblossom (*Ceanothus thrysiflorus*), an ever-green shrub with small glossy green leaves and outstanding blue flowers in late spring/early summer.

Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*), perennial NW native that attracts butterflies, withstands neglect and drought and dries beautifully.

Red-Flowering Currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), a deciduous shrub loved by hummingbirds, highly recommended for landscaping.

We composed this picture by putting together photos of the three plants.



Rare plant puzzle

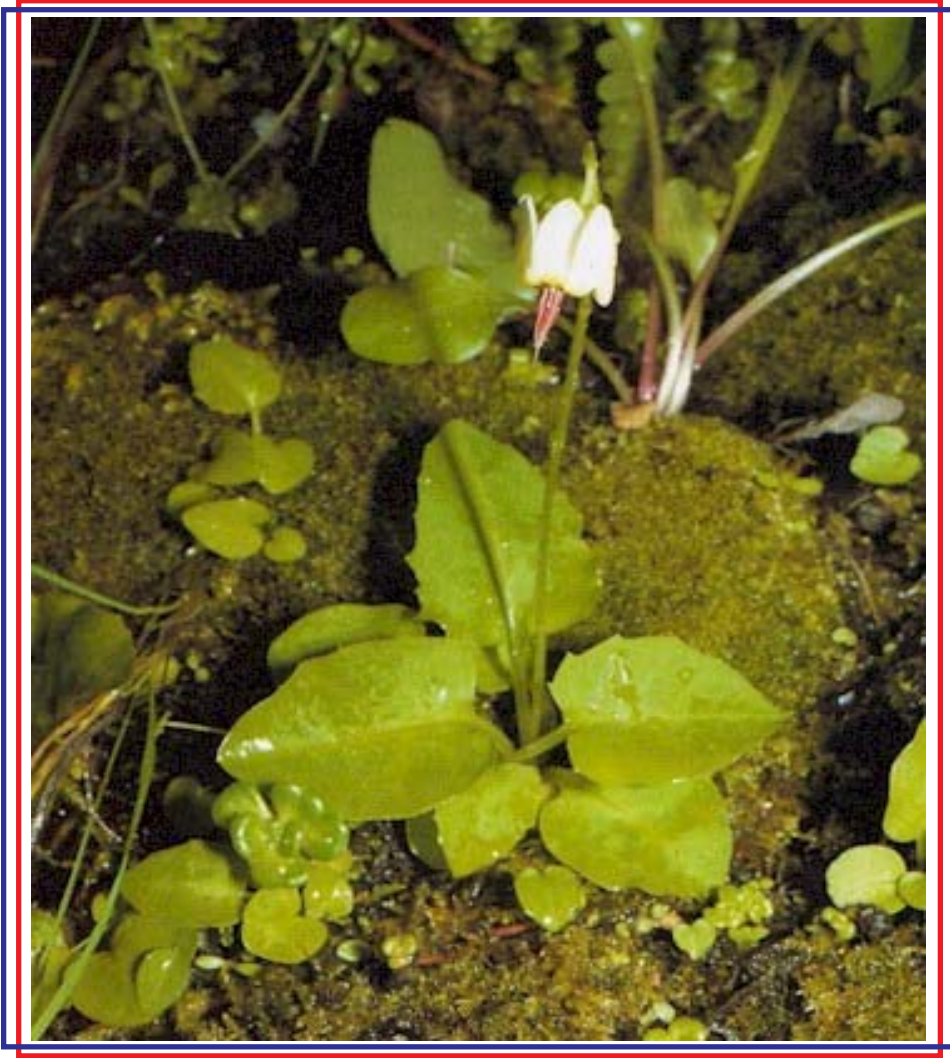


Photo © Donald C. Eastman

Name this plant!

A clue to help you on your quest for the correct answer:

"Fireworks and rockets have nothing on me! I'm earthbound but just as exciting as my namesake."

Send me an email with the correct botanical name of this plant. A small prize to those who correctly identify by July 3, 2006.

Good luck!

Wally

Answer to last Journal's puzzle:

Clarkia pulchella

Congratulations to all who correctly answered!



To Do List

Caring for your NW Native Plant Garden

- 1 –** Be careful about using fertilizer for the rest of the year. You do not want to stimulate the plants too much. It will put tender growth at risk from early frosts.
- 2 –** Get rid of weeds along paths, roads, etc. before they go to seed. Cut and haul away, kill with mild Round Up (nothing stronger), rent some goats, or whatever.
- 3 –** Collect seeds of native perennials, shrubs and trees. Dry a bit, label and store and process later as appropriate. Some seeds can be planted directly in the fall, other must be treated to break dormancy. Think about nature's germination process and let that be your guide.
- 4 –** Keep watering young plants during dry spells. You may even want to rig up some sort of temporary shade if the little ones begin to wilt in the hottest part of the day. An old umbrella works well, a piece of lattice is easy to prop up or you can put some tall sticks around the plant and drape some cheesecloth or other sheer, lightweight fabric over this makeshift shelter.
- 5 –** Cut some flowers or greenery to enjoy indoors. It doesn't have to be a florist's bouquet. Even a little tall grass or a branch from your favorite shrub will bring some summer inside to lighten the atmosphere and freshen the air.
- 6 –** Don't spend all your spare time doing garden chores. Take time to relax and enjoy your hard work. If you have to, make an appointment with yourself for an hour in the hammock. Keep a butterfly journal. Count the number of hummers that visit your flowers. Do whatever it takes to reap the gardener's reward: enjoying the garden!



Sparky's Corner

A special message from our frisky contributor



Lately my buds and I have been visiting Grandma's nest in the evening before we go to sleep. She is always ready to tell us stories of the olden days and all about her adventures.

Sometimes she talks about the times she saw the very first non-native two-leggers. She says it used to be just the feathered two-leggers (that means First Nation ones) but one day there came whole oak trees full of different two-leggers! (That's how Grandma measures--when she means a lot she says 'whole oak trees full' and when she means a little she says 'as much as a huckleberry bush') She said the feathered ones didn't know what to make of the new ones. They didn't look quite ripe yet, all pale and they had more husks on than the feathered ones used. But they brought some new feathered ones with them so they must have been OK. The original two-leggers helped them out with how we do things and what we eat and what plants are good for healing.

The new ones stayed around a whole winter and then went away but it wasn't long before more of the not ripe two-leggers showed up and stayed. Pretty soon there were more not ripes than there were feathered. Lots of the new ones were not very nice to the originals and the two kinds started actually hurting each other! Not like when the bobcats kill rabbits or mice or even (shudder!) squirrels. Bobcats kill for food and that's the natural way. No, the two kinds of two-leggers killed each other because they were mad! Grandma is not too clear about why this all happened but she said it was really scary. There were sticks and fire flying through the air!

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Sparky's Corner, continued

The new made a lot of changes. They chopped down trees and made shelters out of them. Some they burned up. They were clumsy at first, like they didn't know what to do with everything. But they eventually got the hang of it. They seemed to have a hard time figuring out what to eat, especially in the cold time. They even ate Snowberries! Imagine that! The feathered ones never did that but of course they'd been around for whole oak trees of time.

Grandma says Wally is one of the not ripe ones. He's OK though. He treats the land with respect and never bothers the important ones (that's us).

We love Grandma's stories but we think maybe she wasn't really around when all this happened. We think it might be that her Grandma told the stories to her and maybe even it started before that. But it's OK with us however it happened. We just like hanging out in Grandma's nest for our evening stories. Then we have the best dreams!

Gotta go. I hope you get to hear good stories and have good dreams too. Bye for now!

Sparky

Yep, it's me! JoAnn caught me right in her lens and snapped the picture before I could race away. OK I actually posed for this one. C'mon do you really think I couldn't run away if I wanted to? Good picture, huh?



NW Natives in the Colors of the USA

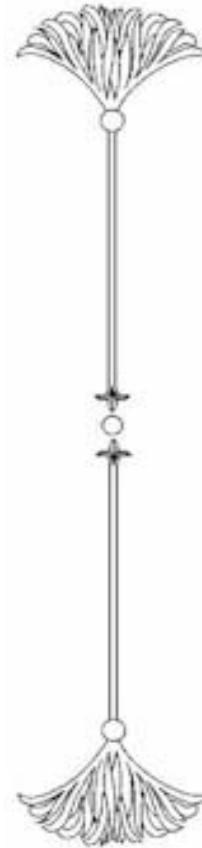
Color in the landscape is always welcome. We chose the palette of our flag for a study in red, white and blue.

Sometimes the flowers of *Ribes sanguineum* are really red and sometimes they are dark and even a lighter pink. The color depends on the amount of sun mostly. More sun brings redder blooms. This shrub grows to about 8 - 10 feet tall and does not mind drought. In fact, it prefers dry, sunny locations. It does not have the thorns of other native currants. Highly recommended.

Red-Flowering Currant
(*Ribes sanguineum*)
Photo by Jennifer Rehm



NW Natives in USA colors, continued



Perennially lovely, the Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*) is a tough cookie in the garden. It's starry white bracts surrounding the little yellow flowers brighten up borders, hedges and will even grow under trees if given enough light.

The original strawflower, the blooms dry to use year round. Lovely tucked into a holiday wreath, a good filler for bouquets of other dried material or even silk flowers. Slip a few of the dried blossoms among the branches of your holiday tree for a fresh look.

Pearly Everlasting is a bright, white star for your garden.

Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

When we think of blue flowers, the Northwest Native Camas just naturally comes to mind. This is historically one of the most valuable plants to the folks who originally lived in the Northwest, the people of the First Nations.

The Camas was awaited eagerly every year, not just for the beauty of those blooms but for the goodness of the bulbs.

The Vancouver Island Coast Salish cultivate the Camas to this day but not commercially.

Entwined all through the old stories, Camas plays a big part in the culture and lore of First Nations.

Excellent perennial bulb.

Leichtlin's Camas or Great Camas
(*Camassia leichtlinii*)

Photo by JoAnn Onstott



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NW Natives in USA colors, continued



Uncommon in gardens, regretfully, is the NW Native Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*).

This deciduous native grows rapidly but it's only 2-8 inches tall. It makes a perfect groundcover beneath conifers if the soil is moist.

It has true dogwood flowers which precede clusters of red berries, quite edible and attractive to wildlife.

Bunchberry
(*Cornus canadensis*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

The flowers of the Grand Hound's Tongue are a bit like Forget-Me-Nots but the stems are more sturdy and long enough to cut for bouquets.

This perennial likes shady, moist sites. It blooms from February through April on 12 to 30 inch stems. The large, rough-textured leaves make a great living mulch because they cover the ground and discourage uninvited weeds.

Not often seen in gardens, we predict this plant will gain in popularity as it's beauty is recognized by more and more gardeners.



Grand Hound's Tongue (*Cynoglossum grande*) Photo by JoAnn Onstott



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NW Natives in USA colors, continued



Our Western Larkspur (*Delphinium menziesii*) is a meadow flower that grows on rocky slopes and open woodlands. It has lacy foliage and bright blue flowers with violet spurs. And sometimes the blooms will be pink!

Hummingbirds flock to this plant, finding rich nectar in those spurs behind the blooms.

We consider the Larkspur to be a must for the wildflower garden.

Delphinium
Photo by Jennifer Rehm

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

Once upon a time I was backpacking on Mount Jefferson heading for Jefferson Park which sits at the foot of the glacier covering the top of the mountain.

As we went along the trail we began to smell something sort of like honey mixed with roses, but not quite that. We didn't see anything to account for this aroma until we went around a bend and there was a slope covered with spires of white flowers coming out of what looked like coarse grass.

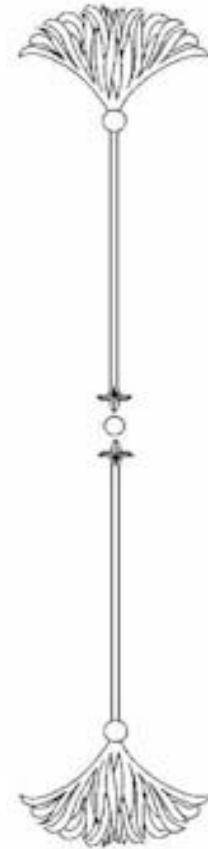
It seemed we had stepped from the earth into a cloud of perfume.
Heavenly!

I later learned this was the Northwest Native perennial *Xerophyllum tenax*, Bear Grass or Indian Basket Grass.



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NW Natives in USA colors, continued



Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*) is a choice deciduous shrub which sports fluffy white flowers that are later replaced by the most delicious fruit you've ever tasted.

The shrub itself is very handsome and not demanding at all. Provide a thick layer of mulch and full sun and you'll be rewarded each year with beauty and fruit beyond compare. Exquisite!

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

Every year the Blueblossom (*Ceanothus thrysiflorus*) regally steps to the fore of the gardening community when it covers itself with little clusters of blue, blue flowers. They are similar to lilacs but tiny and erect. They last a respectable time and then modestly slip away, leaving the shrub to grow and thicken and mature in preparation for next year's display. No deadheading is required to keep this evergreen shrub tidy. Never worry about enough sun or shade, Blueblossom thrives in either.

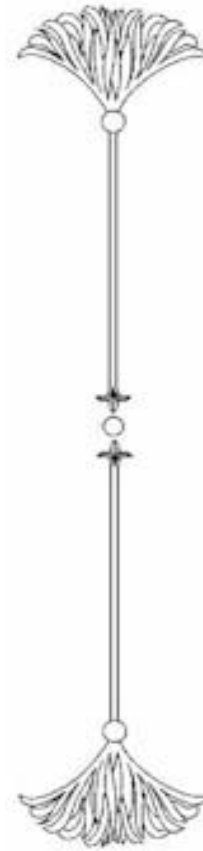


Blueblossom (*Ceanothus thrysiflorus*)
Photo by Wally



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NW Natives in USA colors, continued



Color in the garden is not limited to flowers or even leaves.

The Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea* [stolonifera]) has enough color for even the most discerning gardener just in it's stems! The color is there all year, through the spring when the leaves open up, even while the white clusters of flowers are blooming, through the fall when the leaves turn golden and drop to the ground. When the winter frost coats the branches they are still red and bright.

Smashing color year-round!

Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea* [stolonifera])
Photo by Jennifer Rehm

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

Blue Elderberry is another colorful NW Native for your landscape. The bark is rather common but the big clusters of flowers is spanking white and the berries are truly blue.

A quick growing deciduous shrub, the Blue Elderberry is well known for it's ability to attract flocks of birds when the berries are ripe. It's been known to attract children for the same reason.

Not particular about the amount of light it receives, this shrub will do well in sun or shade and will tolerate a moderately dry site.



Blue Elderberry (*Sambucus cerulea*)

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

Oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*) is another white-flowering Northwest Native shrub that works well in most any landscape. It does like full sun but will grow in shade. It is usually found on dry, rocky slopes. It's frothy white blooms are so pretty! The fragrance of the flowers is sweet and improves as the flowers age. Unlike many blooming plants, the flowers of Oceanspray remain on the plant after they are done blooming and provide food for wildlife. Oceanspray is deciduous and the wood was called "ironwood" by the pioneers who carved it into spikes to use as we do nails nowadays. Hmmm, that might make great material for twig crafting.



Oceanspray
(*Holodiscus discolor*)
Photo by Jennifer Rehm

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

The Oregon Grapes all share some qualities but others are unique. One of the things that makes

Tall Oregon Grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*) different from the others is leaf coloration. It's leaves are always glossy. In early spring the new growth is bronze, then it turns to deep green. After the flowers have finished and the fruits ripen to blue, the leaves turn bright red. Excellent color for the garden!

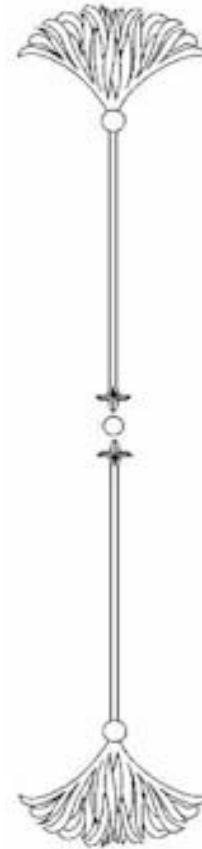


Tall Oregon Grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott



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NW Natives in USA colors, continued



The winter garden lucky enough to include Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*) will be visited by wildlife attracted to the bright white berries. Even after the leaves finally fall, the berries will remain on the branches until the furred and winged critters enjoy the last mouthful.

In spring, the leaves are freshly green and at the end of each branch is a tiny pink bloom. They are sweet little bells and I'm pretty sure faeries like to wear them for skirts.

But it's the winter berries that are the "flagship" of our Northwest Native Snowberry.

Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

More white blooms for the landscape. This time we're celebrating the Mock Orange. The blooms are just beautiful, perfectly formed and delicate with a fringe of yellow at the center of each one.

As delightful as the blooms are to see, it's the nose that gets the most benefit from this Northwest Native shrub. The name "philadelphus" means "brotherly love," and we defy anyone breathing in the heady perfume of the Mock Orange to entertain anything but peaceful, serene thoughts.



Mock Orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*)
Photo by Wally

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

Just as the Blue Elderberry boasts of its large white clusters of flowers, so does the Red Elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*). But whereas the Blue has berries to match its name, the Red has berries of pure carmine.

The Red Elderberry is a deciduous Northwest Native shrub with just as much beauty for the landscape as the Blue.



Red Elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*)

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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

We are fortunate in the Northwest to enjoy several kinds of native huckleberries. For our study of plants providing red, white and blue for the landscape, we selected the Oval Leaf Huck (*Vaccinium ovalifolium*) for the red new leaves and the red twigs on which they grow.

Of course, later on there'll be a plentiful crop of delicious blue-black berries with a bluish bloom, reason enough to include this choice evergreen shrub in your garden.



Oval Leaf Huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovalifolium*) Photo by JoAnn Onstott



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NW Natives in USA colors, continued

We complete our colorful study with the American Cranberry Bush or Snowball (*Viburnum trilobum*). It's a Northwest Native shrub with much to recommend it for the gardener. The foliage is very nice and it shows the



round clusters of flowers to good advantage. They've been a favorite of gardeners for centuries.

But it is the autumn show that brings joy to the hearts of those who love fall color. The leaves change from green to a vibrant scarlet which is complimented by clusters of scarlet berries. It's hard to describe the sight of this shrub in the fall. You'll just have to see it for yourself. It's worth the wait!

American Cranberry Bush
or Snowball
(*Viburnum trilobum*)
Photo by JoAnn Onstott



Shirley, the Vagabond Poppy

Shirley Poppy, Field Poppy, Corn Poppy (*Papaver Rhoeas*)

This little poppy is the originator of the paper poppies traditionally worn by veterans since World War I. It's not native to the United States but it has been introduced here and now we see it on rare occasions in sunny meadows, and waste places, even alongside busy highways. One summer several of these cheerful blooms appeared at the edge of my front yard. The next year they were gone and they never returned yet.

The true origin of the Shirley Poppy is debatable as is that of many plants that wander the earth. According to Stephen Mitsud's website, Malta Wild Plants.com, Shirley is native to these countries:

Northern Africa: Algeria; Egypt; Libya; Morocco; Tunisia
Western Asia: Afghanistan; Cyprus; Egypt; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Jordan; Lebanon; Syria; Turkey
Caucasus: Armenia; Azerbaijan; Georgia; Russian Federation
Indian Subcontinent: Pakistan
Northern Europe: Denmark; Ireland; Norway; Sweden; UK
Middle Europe: Austria; Belgium; Czechoslovakia; Germany; Hungary; Netherlands; Poland; Switzerland
East Europe: Belarus; Latvia; Lithuania; Russian Federation - European part; Ukraine
Southeastern Europe: Albania; Bulgaria; Greece; Italy, Sicily; Romania; Yugoslavia
Southwestern Europe: France; Portugal; Spain; Portugal - Azores, Madeira Islands; Spain - Canary Islands

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Botanical engraving by J.C. Sepp, 1822

Shirley, the Vagabond Poppy, continued

There is a lovely story about how Shirley got her name. It is told by the Reverend W. Wilks--how he found this lovely little poppy and his subsequent adventures with her..

Shirley Poppies

Rev. W. Wilks

*In 1880 I noticed in an abandoned corner of my garden a group of the common red poppy, *Papaver rhoeas*, among which was a solitary flower with petals slightly margined in white. I marked the flower and saved the seed, which the following year produced about two hundred plants, four or five of which had white-edged petals. The best of these were marked, their seed saved, for several years; with the subsequent flowers having an increasingly large area of white on the petals and correspondingly smaller areas of red until a pale pink form was obtained, followed by a plant with white flowers. Next I began the long process of changing the centres of the flowers from black to yellow, and then to white, until I finally succeeded in obtaining a group of plants with petals ranging in colour from brilliant red to pure white, with all the intermediate shades of pink plus an extensive selection with margined and suffused petals; all the flowers having yellow or white stamens, anthers, and pollen, and a white centre.*

...it is interesting to note that all the gardens of the world, whether they be rich or poor, are ornamented by direct descendents of the single seed capsule cultivated in the vicarage garden at Shirley during the August of 1880.



Shirley Poppy, photo by Jan de Leeuw

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Shirley, the Vagabond Poppy, continued

I adore this little poppy and am happy to see her wherever she chooses to grow. Never in her history has she been accused of being invasive. It is reported that ingestion of her leaves causes mild stomach upset in cattle so



grazing land is not a welcome place for her. But every time I spot one of those bright red blooms perched alongside the road, her head nodding merrily as traffic flows past, I can't help but smile. I'd be ever so thankful if she decides to come and grow in my yard again.

Oh, it's possible to purchase seeds to plant this poppy but to me it spoils the whole adventure of it. Where's the romance in planting a packet of seeds and cultivating wild flowers? I leave that method to those who want a sure thing, who want to be in total control of their yards.

My garden is a whimsical place. I plant potted plants where I want them to begin, knowing they will spread and stretch and even send out little beginnings for new ones just like themselves. But I always leave space for surprises. An invitation, if you will, for a vagabond plant to find a place to rest. And if it's to their liking, they are welcome to stay.

There is another story about this flower which is also called the Flanders Poppy. We'll save that tale for another day.

Photo by Jennifer Rehm



Rockets and Firecrackers

Plants with 'explosive' names

We thought it would be fun to show plants that have common names like the fireworks we see in celebration and remembrance of the United States Independence Day which is observed on July 4 each year. Most of these plants are not native to the Northwest and some are listed as invasive. The natives have a red "thumbs up" beside them.



Photo courtesy of Don Eastman

We found there are many plants with the same or similar common names and we put them in three main categories. These three groups are:

Fireweed
Rocket
Firecracker

As is usual with common names, each of these are applied to very different plants depending where the name is used and by whom. (Which, by the way, is why we use botanical nomenclature to identify plants whenever possible. Even among botanical scholars there is some controversy about the "correct" name and these do change over time but botanical names are far more reliable in identifying any plant.)

What better way to start than with a true Northwest Native Perennial, the Firecracker Flower (*Dichelostemma ida-maia* [Wood] Greene), the Oregon name. Oddly, the botanical name for this plant is more confusing than the common one. In California where the plant is more usual, it's botanical name is *Brevoortia ida-maia* Wood.

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Rockets and Firecrackers

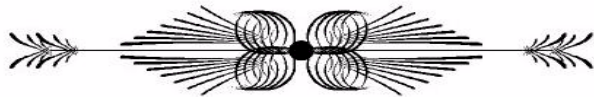
Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*) Native to the Northwest

Another of the “fire” plants that is native to the Northwest, the *Epilobium angustifolia*, commonly known as Fireweed. This is a perennial plant with tall, showy magenta blooms.

Growing tips:

- Since this plant naturally occurs in areas after burns, put a few ashes from a wood fire in the planting hole to give the plant a naturally good start.

- After the first blooms have gone by take a look at the stem below the spent bloom. You'll see little 'spurs' of flower buds all along the stem going almost to the ground. Clip off the spent blooms right above the highest of these 'spurs' and you'll get a second bloom almost as magnificent as the first.



Fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolia*)
Photo by Jennifer Rehm



Rockets and Firecrackers, continued

**Fireweed, American Burnweed or Pilewort (*Erechtites hieracifolia* (Linn. and Rafin.)
Native to the US but not desirable.**



Erechtites hieracifolia.

Botanical drawing from Southwest School of Botanical Medicine, Bisbee, Arizona, Michael Moore – Director, Donna Chesner – Administrator

The plant is a pioneer and is typically the first plant to sprout after a soil disturbance or fire. This species grows fast and can reach a height of 3m, although it can flower when quite small, especially if it is mowed or is growing in an area with poor soil.

Natives used a tea made from the plant to cure many ailments including diarrhea, cystitis, and dropsy.

Botanical.com describes it: This coarse, homely American weed is an annual and derives its name from its habit of growing freely in moist open woods and clearings, and in greatest luxuriance on newly-burnt fallows. It has composite flowers, blooming from July to September.

You probably recognize this plant. It grows anywhere it can. In my opinion, it is best pulled up and placed reverently in the compost bin where it belongs--provided your compost heap gets hot enough to kill the seeds. Otherwise, place in a plastic bag and put in the refuse.



Photo, Kitty Kohout and Wisconsin State Herbarium

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Rockets and Firecrackers, continued

Rockets

The name rocket is used for at least 20 species of herbs, mostly members of the mustard family Cruciferae (brassicaceae). These species vary from well known and widely cultivated to obscure and rarely or never grown. They share in common a distinctive zesty or sharp flavor that is akin to mustard or horseradish. People who relish spicy or hot foods often enjoy rocket. From rocket to rocket the flavor varies.



Many of these plants were used as ornamentals and have now escaped and are beginning to show up in our wildlands. Some tend to invade riparian and wetland habitat.

There is a difference between growing plants for food and growing for looks. When grown for food, the plants are not usually allowed to reseed. They are either harvested before setting seed or the seed is collected to be used as spice. However, ornamental plants are encouraged to reseed and therein is where the problem lies.

There are many landscape alternatives to planting rockets including Blue Columbine (*Aquilegia caerulea*) and Lavender Native Bee Balm (*Monarda fistulosa menthaefolia*).

Garden Rocket, Scented Rocket, Sky Rocket, Sweet Rocket or Dame's Rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*) native to Southern Europe to Siberia Photo from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

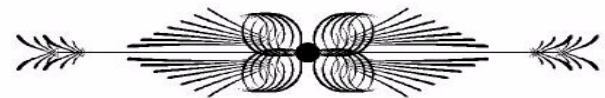
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Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Corn Rocket (*Bunias erucago*) (aka Crested Warty Cabbage)
native to Southern Europe, occasionally found in Britain

Cress Rocket (*Carrichtera annua*) (aka Ward's Weed)
native to southern rangelands of Australia



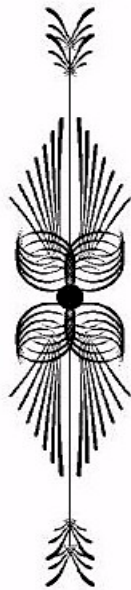
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Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Dyer's Rocket (*Reseda luteola*) (aka wild mignonette) native to England

Eastern Rocket (*Sisymbrium orientale*) (aka Indian Hedgemustard) native to Europe, has traveled all round the world despite efforts to eradicate it.



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Rockets and Firecrackers, continued

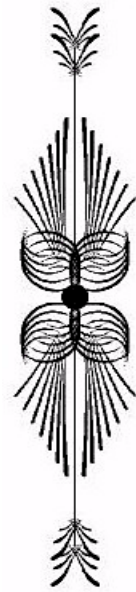


Photo • Queen's Printer for Ontario, 2006

French Rocket (*Sisymbrium irio*)
native range Mediterranean Europe, Iraq,
Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, Arabia,
Caucasus, Iran, Pakistan, North Africa,
Macaronesia (Daoud, 1985).

Garden Rocket, Salad Rocket or Rocketsalad
(*Eruca vesicaria* ssp. *sativa*) native to Europe

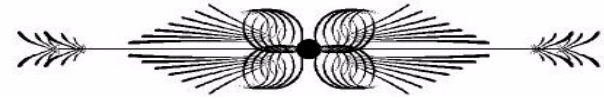


[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Hairy Rocket or Dog Mustard (*Erucastrum gallicum*) introduced from Eurasia Photo by Emmet J. Judziewicz, courtesy of Robert W. Freckmann Herbarium, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Wisconsin Plants web site (<http://wisplants.uwsp.edu>).



London Rocket (*Sisymbrium Irio*) introduced from Europe



⇒ More ⇒

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Perennial Rocket (*Sisymbrium strictissimum*) native to Europe but very common in Britain and Ireland

Prairie Rocket or Western Wallflower (*Erysimum asperum*)
Seems to be considered native now but may have been introduced from Europe. Accepted as desirable plant in US and Canada. Photo by Michał Misiurewicz

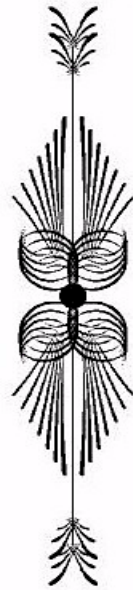


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Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Purple Rocket (*Iodanthus pinnatifidus*) Originally introduced from Europe. Considered desirable in US and Canada. Listed as endangered in Pennsylvania and Minnesota. Photo from the Ozarks Regional Herbarium, Department of Biology, Missouri State University



Small-flowered Rocket or Shy Wallflower (*Erysimum inconspicuum*) Considered native to US and Canada. Photo by Barbara J. Collins, Ph.D., California Lutheran University, Wildflowers and Scenery of the Canadian Rockies.



⇒ More ⇒

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Tall Rocket, Tumble Mustard, Jim Hill Mustard (*Sisymbrium altissimum*) Introduced from elsewhere, **considered invasive.**
Photo Copyright 2005 OSU

Turkish Rocket (*Bunias orientalis*) Native to Europe, S. Russia



⇒ More ⇒

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Wall Rocket, Sand Rocket, Sand Mustard but usually Lincoln Weed (*Diplotaxis tenuifolia*) Origin Southern & Central Europe, Asia Minor



Water Rocket, Creeping Yellow Cress or Yellow Fieldcress (*Rorippa sylvestris*) Introduced from elsewhere and now designated a noxious weed. In Oregon it is a class B designated weed and quarantine is required.



⇒ More ⇒

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



White Rocket (*Diplotaxis eruroides*) Origin S. Europe, Mediterranean, naturalized in S. Britain

Yellow Rocket, Winter Cress (*Barbarea vulgaris*)
Introduced and **considered invasive** in NE US, Nebraska and Great Plains and the southern states.

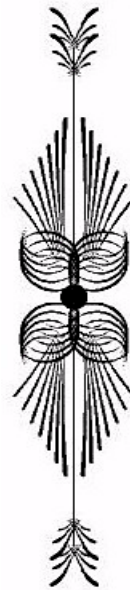


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Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Rocket (*Eruca sativa* L.) or (*Eruca saliva*) Native to Europe, Mediterranean, frequently found in Britain. Botanical drawing fao.org



Wild Rocket (*Sisymbrium officinale* L. [Scop.]) Native to Europe including Britain, south and east from Scandinavia to N. Africa and the Near East. **Listed as invasive** in Kentucky and the NE US. Photo Copyright 2005 OSU



[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Sea Rocket, American Sea-Rocket (*Cakile edentula*) Native to the US. Listed as threatened in Illinois and rare in Pennsylvania. Photo by Derrick Ditchburn

Firecracker Flower (*Crossandra infundibuliformis* Acanthaceae) Native to Southern India, Sri Lanka, Mexico, Guatemala Photo courtesy of Botany & Microbiology at The University of Oklahoma



[⇒ More ⇒](#)

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



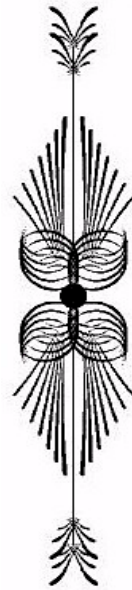
Firecracker Plant (*Russelia equisetiformis*)
Native to Tropical America and Mexico Photo
by Russell Fransham

Firecracker Plant, Cigar Plant (*Cuphea ignea*
A. DC.) or (*Parsonsia ignea*) Originally from
Mexico, Jamaica and West Indies.



⇒ More ⇒

Rockets and Firecrackers, continued



Firecracker Plant, Red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia* var. *pavia*) Hippocastanaceae (Buckeye Family)
Native to the Southern US.



Useful Plant Databases on the Web

Here is a good collection of web data bases that will be useful to professional growers and all native plant gardeners. This list is from a larger list compiled by Lawyer Nursery in 2002 and published in one of their flyers. I wish to thank them for this public service.

Wally

American Bonsai Society

http://www.absbonsai.org/abs_home.html

Bonsai web

<http://www.bonsaiweb.com>

Portal of links to educate about the art of bonsai.

CalPhotos

<http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/>

Over 33,000 plant images from the University of California, Berkley

Cornell University online grafting course

<http://instruct1.cit.cornell.edu/courses/hort494/graftage/hort494.index.html>

Fire effects on plant species

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/>
USDA, Forest Service site.

Flora of North America Web Site

<http://hua.huh.harvard.edu/FNA/>

Taxonomic relationships, distributions, and morphological characteristics of all plants native and naturalized found in North America.

⇒ More ⇒

Useful Plant Databases on the Web, Continued

Bonsai web

<http://www.bonsaiweb.com>

Portal of links to educate about the art of bonsai.

Fire effects on plant species

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/>

USDA, Forest Service site.

Forest Types of the United States

<http://forestry.about.com/library/tree/bltypdex.htm>

Maps of the most common forest types.

Forestry index

<http://forestryindex.net/>

Links to news & info on the forestry industry.

Cornell University online grafting course

<http://instruct1.cit.cornell.edu/courses/hort494/graftage/hort494.index.html>

Growit.com Rooting Database

<http://www.growit.com/Know/Rooting.htm>

"Extensive information on rooting cuttings of woody plants, organized by botanical name. Developed for commercial growers."

The Native Plant Network

<http://nativeplants.for.uidaho.edu/network/>

Information on how to propagate native plants of North America.

⇒ More ⇒

Useful Plant Databases on the Web, Continued

Woody Plant Seed Manual

<http://www.wpsm.net/>

Manual by the US Forest Service covering seed biology, genetic Improvement of forest trees, seed testing, certification of tree seeds and other woody plant materials, and nursery practices.

River Corridor and Wetland Restoration

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/>

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) site

Soils

<http://homepages.which.net/~fred.moor/soil/links/10102.htm>

A website about soil fertility, chemistry, and pH with many interesting links.

Soil Science Society of America

<http://www.soils.org/>

Website for soil science professionals. Offers information and links.



Personal notes from Wally



Mock Orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*) Photo by JoAnn Onstott



Never such a wonderful Start of
Summer!

My Native Plant Gardens are in
radiant beauty!

Giant Firs and Oaks sway ever
so gently!

Countless native plants vie for
attention!

Life is Good! - Life is
Worthwhile!

Let tomorrow be for tomorrow!

Good luck!

Wally



NOTICE: NURSERY IS CLOSED

**In November 2010,
Wallace W Hansen Northwest Native Plants
Native Plant Nursery and Gardens
closed permanently.**



Many thanks to all our gardening friends for your interest in the native plants of the Pacific northwest. It has been our pleasure to serve you.



www.nwplants.com

Our website, www.nwplants.com, is no longer commercial. Our goal is to continue Wally's legacy of generating interest, even passion, in the magnificent native plants of the Pacific Northwest through information and illustration.

Good luck! Good gardening!

Blueblossom (*Ceanothus thrysiflorus*) is sure to win your heart. It's an evergreen delight in any garden.