

The Penstemoniac

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN PENSTEMON SOCIETY

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MEETING NOTICE

Registration Details for 2019 APS Annual Meeting in Walden CO

*APS Meeting Organizer and Leader: Mike Kintgen
Curator of Alpine Collections, Denver Botanic Gardens*

The 2019 meeting of the American Penstemon Society (APS) is coming up fast! In just 6 weeks APS will meet in northwest Colorado in the tiny town of Walden (zipcode 80480). The Annual Meeting begins on Friday, May 31 and continues through Monday, June 3.

Mike Kintgen, organizer and leader, has reserved 80 member registrations. At this time there still are 20 registrations open. Make your reservation [online \(under the MEETINGS tab\)](#) or use the **form on page 5 of this meeting notice**. We urge you to make reservations as soon as possible; this is a popular tourist attraction and lodging fills up quickly. At this time, lodging is available at the following places:

- Antlers Inn 970-723-4670
- Calamity Trading Post Cabins, Kings Canyon, CO www.airbnb.com
- Chedsey Motel 970-723-8201
- Clark Peak Cabins, LLC 970-723-8300
- Granite Corner RV Park 970-723-4628
- Majestic Moose Cabin 970-692-4160
- North Park Inn and Suites 970-723-4271
- Powderhorn Cabins 970-723-4359
- Walden Suites 970-723-8201
- Westside Motel 970-723-8589

Update and Details for the 2019 meeting

Work continues on the 2019 Meeting in Walden, Colorado May 31-June 3rd. There is an exciting line up of speakers and field trips planned for the conference. We hope you can join us to see some lovely penstemons in the wild, learn about conservation work being done in Colorado, explore propagation techniques, and learn why North Park is so unique. Additional opportunities on June 3rd exist to see a large penstemon collection in a public garden in Steamboat Springs and if weather conditions cooperate, a private garden near Steamboat Springs with a large collection of alpine and native plants.

2019 APS Speakers

• Bryan Fischer

A native of Fort Collins, Colorado, Bryan's family settled North Park in the early 1900's and has maintained ties to the area for over 100 years. Bryan has a B.S. in Horticulture from Colorado State University and has worked with both the alpine and native collections at Denver Botanic Gardens, as well as at the Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins. A regular visitor to North Park since a very young age with an eye for the native flora of the region, Bryan knows the area well and has been instrumental in vegetation surveys on his family's ranch through Denver Botanic Garden's *Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium*. Bryan will speak about the region's history, its flora, and what makes North Park and the surrounding mountains unique botanically.

• Mike Bone

Also a native of Colorado, Mike Bone is the curator of the Steppe Collections at Denver Botanic Gardens where he has been instrumental in developing the new Steppe Garden and living collections from the four major steppes of the world. Mike has traveled to three of the four steppes and has conducted research in Asia, South Africa and throughout Western North America. In addition to being a curator, Mike is an excellent propagator and has worked on protocols for many difficult Western and steppe-dwelling plants. He will explain propagation of penstemons, including seeds and cuttings.

• Michelle DePringer-Levin

Michelle has been a Research Assistant with Denver Botanic Gardens since 2002. She works in the Research and Conservation Department with Colorado's rare and endangered plants. Michelle studies applied plant conservation. She conducts field research on plant population dynamics and models species distributions, population level genetic structure, and response to climate change. Michelle currently is working on a PhD at the University of Colorado, Denver. She will be speaking about some of the work DBG is doing with Colorado's rare and endangered penstemons.

Field trips

• Saturday

There will be three field trips on Saturday. **Each field trip is limited to 27 people.**

- Field trips are caravan style with the leader driving a vehicle and others following. Carpooling is highly encouraged.
- June will be high mosquito population time in North Park and parts of Middle Park. There are enough rivers, lakes, and irrigated hay meadows that despite the steppe-like vegetation, the mosquitoes can be legendary. Please wear long sleeves, pants and bring bug repellent. Ticks also have been encountered, although rarely.

1) North Park, Roads #5 and #17, and Independence Mountain

Leader: Mike Kintgen

This field trip takes place in steppe, moist meadows, and possibly forest habitats, depending on season. *Penstemon cyanophorus, secundiflorus, virens, virgatus*, and possibly *saxosorum* all may be seen. The field trip offers a wide variety of *Astragalus, Oxytropis, Erigeron, Eriogonum, Castilleja, Lupinus* and other assorted spring steppe genera. If time, weather conditions and interest allow, there will be a possible visit to see *Cypripedium* and other disjunct Pacific Northwest genera as well.

2) Fischer Ranch

Leader: Bryan Fischer

This is a private ranch owned by the Fischer family and still is the residence of the Fischer Family. *Please be respectful of Bryan's wishes and honor his restrictions.*

Penstemon cyananthophorus and *virgatus* are on the property along with an interesting array of species not found on the west side of the park (*Mertensia humilis, Opuntia fragilis, Opuntia cf polyacantha*). Bryan will show you some of the wide variety of habitats found on the property.

This trip requires high clearance vehicles or 4-wheel drive vehicles to access some of the two-track ranch roads. There will be some walking as well to reach sites without disturbing vegetation on the ranch. Carpooling is highly encouraged.

3) Independence Mountain and Roads #5 and #17

Leader: Mike Bone

This drive showcases high elevation steppe (>9,000), along with open forest environments and moist meadows. The trip will continue on Roads 17 and 5 in the reverse order of the first field trip. We will see *P. cyananthophorus, secundiflorus, virens, virgatus*, and possibly *saxosorum*. The trip offers a wide variety of *Genus Astragalus, Oxytropis, Erigeron, Eriogonum, Castilleja, Lupinus* and other assorted spring steppe flora. If time, weather conditions and interest allow, a possible visit to see *Cypripedium*, and other Pacific Northwest disjuncts exist as well.

• Sunday

There will be three field trips on Sunday. **Each field trip is limited to 27 people.**

1) North Park, Roads #5 and #17 and Independence Mountain

Leader Bryan Fischer

This field trip takes in Steppe, moist meadow and possibly forest habitats depending on time. *Penstemon cyananthophorus, secundiflorus, virens, virgatus*, and possibly *P. saxosorum* could be seen. The trip offers a wide variety of *Genus astragalus, oxytropis, erigeron, eriogonum, castilleja, lupinus* and other assorted spring steppe flora. If time, weather conditions and interest allow, we may see *Genus Cypripedium*, and other Pacific Northwest disjuncts.

2) State Bridge

Leader: Mike Bone

This field trip will pass over Gore Pass and down into the Colorado River Valley around State Bridge. This is Pinyon Juniper habitat and is home to *Penstemon caespitosus*, *osterhoutii* and *harringtonii*. There also will be the potential to see *P. watsonii* and *P. strictus*. The trip then will pass through Radium up to Middle Park with the opportunity to see more *P. caespitosus*, *P. cyanthophorus* again, *P. virgatus* and possibly *P. penlandii* (as of writing we still are waiting on BLM permission to visit *P. penlandii*). A slight detour near Radium could offer the possibility to see *P. crandallii*.

3) Middle Park

Leader: Mike Kintgen

This field trip will pass through Middle Park to Kremmling with the opportunity to see *P. caespitosus*, *P. cyanthophorus* again, *P. virgatus* and possibly *P. penlandii*. The trip will continue on through Radium and down into the Colorado River Valley around State Bridge. A slight detour near Radium could offer the po then possibly to see *P. crandallii*. This is *Pinyon Juniper* habitat and is home to *P. caespitosus*, *osterhoutii* and *harringtonii*. There also will be the potential to see *P. watsonii*, and *P. strictus*. The group then will return to Walden via Gore Pass.

• Monday June 3rd (Optional Day)

Yampa River Botanic Park

This 22 year-old five-acre public garden in Steamboat Springs houses extensive native, alpine and ornamental collections. The penstemons are housed in several gardens: *The Penstemon Garden* (scheduled for renovation in 2019), *The Crevice Garden*, *The Xeric Garden* and *Jeff's Garden*. Early June should be a great time to visit.

If spring weather conditions cooperate, Mike Kintgen will open his private garden 35 miles north of Steamboat Springs. Mike will not be able to determine if it will be open until sometime in May when the snow melts. This garden lies at 8,200 feet (2500m) and houses hundreds of species that are adapted to the short growing season.

*Ginny Maffitt, Newsletter Editor
and Martha Dibblee, Publisher*



P. secundiflorus North Park (Mike Kintgen)

REGISTRATION FORM

2019 AMERICAN PENSTEMON ANNUAL MEETING

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Name _____

Accompanying persons name(s) _____

Street Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Registration Fees	# people	day	\$ total
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Full Meeting Registration (\$135/person includes 2 dinners)	_____	_____	_____
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Single Day Registration (\$45/person/day) Fri, Sat, Sun	_____	_____	_____
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Attending Monday Optional Day? _____ Yes _____ No

Grand Total	_____	_____	_____
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Payment can be made by filling out and mailing this form with an enclosed check made out to the 'American Penstemon Society' (no cash, please) to,

Randy Tatroe
17156 E. Berry Place
Centennial, CO 80015
Email: rtatroe@q.com

Alternately, you may pay by PayPal or Credit Card on our website. Check the online registration feature under the [ANNUAL MEETING](#) tab. You will find the appropriate information there.

After we receive your registration and payment we will send you a confirming email or letter.

Please note APS members in good standing or non-members may register and attend this meeting. If you aren't a member please consider joining the American Penstemon Society. Also note that you will be required to sign and return a waiver of APS responsibility for any accident or other misfortune you might encounter during these meetings. It will be sent to you along with your confirmation and must be returned before your registration is complete.