

## Kenneth Lodewick 1922-2012

Ken Lodewick, a devoted “penstemaniac” and longtime APS member, passed away in early March at the age of ninety. Upon numerous and diverse occasions, he is greatly missed. Ken and Robin Lodewick, who often worked as a devoted team, were awarded the Myrtle Hebert award for their extensive contributions to penstemon knowledge. They joined APS in 1962. Ken served as APS president from June 1974 through 1975 and also served actively as vice-president. He always was eager to help a newcomer. I pleasantly remember my first penstemon field trip some twenty years ago. As a newcomer I “identified” a penstemon after a quick look with a hand lens. He said, “Now how can you be that sure. You must look at as many flowers as you can. Get a complete look at stages of development and maturation. Now look at a lot of those anthers before you decide.”

The Lodewicks published extensively. Their publications, “Penstemon Notes”, “Penstemon Nomenclature”, “Penstemon Field Identifier”, and “Keys to the Genus Penstemon” all were originally included as supplements to APS Bulletins. Because these publications were so valued and broadly appreciated, they subsequently were updated and published in book form. Ken’s interests and activities were far-reaching. He was a founding member of two “Emerald” chapters: one for the Native Plant Society of Oregon and the other for the North American Rock Garden Society. As hikers with boundless energy, Ken and Robin both were active members of a Eugene, Oregon outdoor club, “The Obsidians”. They met through their common love of the outdoors and were married in 1963. Ken participated in 204 treks and was leader of 70 of these excursions. Botany treks such as Bohemia Mountain and Iron Mountain in Oregon’s Western Cascades became the centerpiece of the 1998 NARGS Annual meeting. That same year, Ken and Robin chaired a highly successful APS “Oregon Penstemon Loop” Annual Meeting. Attesting to their gardening skill and enthusiasm, the Lodewick garden at one time contained 150 penstemon species. The Lodewicks have been enthusiastic supporters and fine friends of the Oregon Flora Project, as well as numerous environmental and land conservation causes.

Ken was born in Orono, Maine. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Structures Design from the University of Oregon. Throughout his career he was primarily a cartographer, but also worked as a newspaper librarian and a civil engineering technician. He was a very outgoing and friendly fellow, always eager to converse on an amazing variety of subjects such as genealogy or land survey corner searches. --Louise Parsons