



Patrick H. Murphy - President
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May 27, 2000

Thomas Laupa
1003 Remington St.
Ft. Collins, CO 80524
970-482-8018

Dear Mr. Laupa,

I felt that now would be a good time to document and copy all the paperwork I have put together. Now that we have a good letter from Ohio University Press/Swallow Press I feel we are on a good foundation for the next steps. I want to outline what I hope the Colorado Native Plant Society (CoNPS) can accomplish by obtaining the Copyright or at least full permission to proceed with the following projects.

1. The entire document will be scanned into a digital format that can be used on Computers, CD's or transferred over the internet. This would be provided either free to the public or with minimal charge. This format would be a scanned image but not a real text file.
2. The scanned images can be run through a program to turn it into real text. This Optical Character Recognition (OCR) program will still have about a 90+% error rate and need a great deal of correction. I hope to organize an effort by the CoNPS to divide and conquer this task.
3. Once the document is in a text format, it can be used to make revisions such as update nomenclature and plant descriptions. This will hopefully encourage some authors to pursue this effort once the document is in a text format. I feel that any sales of books that use this as a template should contribute to the next task.
4. The Harrington text is very systematically organized, so there is a good possibility that the entire document could be efficiently turned into a database. There would be a need to write a program to do the deconstruction of the document into data fields, and there will probably also be a great deal of human input into the ultimate production of the database.

I feel that once the database is created, this will provide a powerful tool to identify, understand and protect the Colorado native plants. My hope is that in the not-too-distant future someone can pull out a hand calculator sized mini computer that will help them identify the plant they are looking at, have a picture as a verification and if the plant is a weed, encourage the individual to either removing it or notifying someone like me to verify and then remove it.

I am sending 2 copies to you (so you can get one to your lawyer), one to your mother Dorothy and Aunt Mary, and one to Jeff Dawson (President of CoNPS).

The next steps would be to document contact with, and intentions of:

Dorothy Laupa (your mother)

Mary Kaiser (her sister, your aunt)

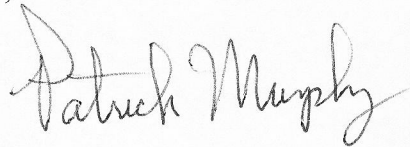
Mr. Rejman E. Jirsa (location unknown, possibly Harringtons lawyer?)

Bruno Klinger (location unknown)

We may not even be half way completed with this effort, but it feels good to have gotten this far. Thanks for your time

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick Murphy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".