

314 words, column #44  
Java Talk  
(for February 28 to March 5, 2008)

## **Every Age Is The Best Age**

### *Lasting Impressions*

I was surprised at the number of hits that came up on Google by just searching Moralea Milne's first name, after I had finished finding out about the Acorn Award, which recognizes people for their "outstanding work in Garry Oak Ecosystems." At last month's Native Plant Study Group (NPSG) meeting, we were told it had been awarded to Moralea, who is also the NPSG's excellent monthly newsletter editor.

Going through page after page with so many links to more sites about Moralea's expertise, achievements, and continuing work was very humbling. Then I came across her impressive and thought-provoking article, "The Ethics of Plant Rescue," originally published in the *Victoria Naturalist*, January/February 2004 issue, which added to my realization how it was only a glimpse of the love, respect, and appreciation that her fellow environmentalists and native plant gardeners at the NPSG meeting were expressing when she was asked to stand up so everyone could recognize her.

I first saw Moralea demonstrate her expertise and generosity two years ago last March, a month after I had joined the NPSG. She graciously and voluntarily potted a combination of native plants for me to give to the mother of a friend of mine who had just died that week. The list of plants included Oregon Grape, Camas, Fawn Lily, Evergreen Huckleberry, Sea Blush, Nodding Onion, Kinnikinnick, Wild Strawberry, Henderson's Shooting Star, and various mosses.

From the web sites I looked at, I also saw how Moralea has been getting a lot of recognition this last while, not only for her own achievements, but also on behalf of her husband, John Webb, who died last March, including the posthumous 2006/07 Service Excellence Special Achievement Premier's Award, but also for their completed efforts to place a protective covenant on their property, Camas Hill, as a lasting legacy for future generations. Information about land covenants can be found at <http://www.hat.bc.ca/covenants.htm>.

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