Message from the President

Like juncos and chickadees, we valley dwellers migrate to the high mountains in the summer, if only for a day. I have been haunting the Mt. Shasta area this year. Gumboot Lake, above Lake Siskiyou on the west side of the valley, is perfect for flowers and eagles, and offers an easy lakeside hike. You can find the burning blue of gentians and the glowing green of cobra lilies. These hollow-leaved pitcher plants dazzle flies and beetles, capturing them in skylight-studded hoods and eventually getting their nitrogen when the insects decompose. It’s a good way for a plant to make a living on wet, serpentine soils.

The spring in Panther Meadows, headwaters of the McCloud River and sacred to many religions, is a magnet for visitors from all over the world. This spring is once again available to the public, after meadow renovations last year. The meadow flowers of purple asters, goldenbush and red paintbrush are gorgeous, and you might see birds like Clark’s nutcracker and ravens.

If you need an early dose of autumn, our dry year has brought fall flowers to the mountains earlier than usual. Davis’ knotweed and dwarf blueberries are already showing red leaves, so now’s the time for an outing.

Join us for the Bring-A-Friend picnic on September 22, and remember to come to the new Redding Library near City Hall at the new time of 6:30 PM on Thursday, September 20, for the Welcome Back members meeting. ☺

~Susan Libonati, President

25th Annual CNPS Native Plant Sale

Shasta College Greenhouses, Saturday, October 13, 9 AM -12 PM
Pre-sale work party, Friday, October 12, 9 AM -12 PM
Members-only pre-sale, Friday, October 12, 3-5 PM

The event you’ve been waiting for all year is just around the corner! This year's sale will be held from 9 to 12 AM on Saturday, October 13. As usual, 2 hours are being set aside the day before, Friday, October 12, for sales to CNPS members only (3 to 5 PM). The hours for the pre-sale are shorter this year because we’re splitting out the pre-sale work party, which will happen earlier in the day from 9 AM to 12 PM. This will allow us to focus on preparing for the Saturday sale in the morning and selling plants in the afternoon.

This year the inventory is much enlarged with lots of new plants and lots of the old reliables we’ve had in the past. Our native plant foster home program has been successful at keeping some of the more drought tolerant plants alive and this will contribute to our inventory of over 1000 plants. As always, our inventory includes drought tolerant plants, moist meadow natives, unusual natives you can’t find anywhere else, and oak and conifer species. Here’s a sampling of what we have this year: redbud, California hibiscus, madrone, salvias, Bigelow’s sneezeweed, purple needlegrass, creeping sage, columbine, swordfern, Douglas spiraea and wooly sunshine.

There are no plans to change our traditional pricing this year and most plants are in 1 gallon pots selling for $5. Some smaller pots will be $3, and there will be a handful of plants greatly discounted because of their age and condition. Rare species in very limited quantities may sell for more than $5.

Plants will also be available from Shasta College and there will be booths with information on weeds and native species as well as books, posters and cards for sale. As always, we’ll have folks on hand with lots of knowledge and experience with native plants to answer questions.

So come on down and check out our selection of plants. If you have questions about the sale, please call me at 778-9884. ☺

~Susan Erwin
FIELDTRIP FOLLOW-UPS

Bumpass Hell to Kings Creek Hike

On Saturday, July 7, seventeen CNPS-ers took a four-mile trek in Lassen National Park for some wildflower viewing. It was a warm day with temperatures in the 70’s, but we fared better than the valley, where temperatures topped 110 degrees! We hiked mostly downhill from Bumpass Hell to the Kings Creek picnic area, and were treated to two marmot sightings and many wildflowers that typically don’t bloom until late July or August. All along the trail and in the “hanging meadows” between Bumpass Hell and Cold Boiling Lake, we found the following in bloom: heather, bog laurel, forget-me-not, phacelia, aster, buckwheat, pussy paws, monkeyflower, coyote mint, white stickseed, bleeding heart, violet, fawn lily, lupine, corn lily, leopard lily, silene, rein orchid, monkshood, cinquefoil, three types of penstemon, paintbrush, elephant head, marsh marigold, coralroot orchid, snow plant, arrowleaf balsamroot, shooting star and the special Leichtlin’s mariposa lily. We topped the fieldtrip off with Mexican food in Red Bluff on the way home!

Heart Lake Hike

On Sunday, July 29, Barbara Kapsenberg led a fieldtrip to Heart Lake above Castle Lake in the northern part of the Castle Crags Wilderness Area near Mount Shasta. The seven hikers were treated to breath-taking views of Castle Lake from above, and Mount Shasta and Black Butte in the distance. The 3-mile roundtrip hike was at the 5600-to-6000-foot elevation range. Even though the wildflowers were past their prime, Barbara explained the many conifers we saw, such as western white pine, hemlock, Douglas fir, Jeffrey pine and white fir. We saw clarkia in bloom up by Heart Lake, and a few paintbrush, buckwheat, penstemon, sedum and lupine along the trail.

Forest Lake Hike

On Saturday, August 18, bright blue skies and temperatures in the low 70’s greeted and a blue grouse. Sightings included one yellow-bellied marmot on the trail and ate lunch next to the scenic lake instead! Wildlife bubbling springs surrounding Forest Lake but found none, searched for sundews and gentian in the mossy seeps and found none, searched for sundews and gentian in the mossy seeps and found none.

Flower Show Review

On Mother’s Day Sunday, May 13, the 14th Annual Siskiyou County Wildflower Show was held and was another beautiful show. The Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest and volunteer plant collectors managed to bring in 310 species of plants for the show, held at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds.

Along with the plant displays, basket weaving and local wildflower art were featured. The favorite-flower voting activity resulted in ballots cast for 32 different species, ranging from the prettiest weeds, to the brightest colors, and to the best fragrances. The species with the most votes was again Siskiyou Lewisia (named after Merriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark expedition), for its outstanding beauty.

Special thanks go out to the crew of Forest Service employees and Shasta Chapter California Native Plant Society members who volunteered their time and energy to bring this educational event to the public.

~ Terri Thesken

2007 Bring-a-Friend Potluck Picnic

Parkville Ranch, The DuBose Residence
4-7 PM, Saturday, September 22

Join longtime CNPSers and bring new friends to this year’s potluck picnic, hosted at Parkville Ranch by Dave and Sandy DuBose. Everyone is welcome to enjoy Dave’s stories of the historic ranch, wander in the native plant garden, and enjoy good company. Bring a potluck dish and a friend.

Directions: From I-5, take the Deschutes Road exit at the Outlet Stores in Anderson. Go east and north to Dersch Road; turn right onto Dersch Road; go about three miles to Parkville Road; turn right (south) onto Parkville Road; pass the pioneer cemetery. About three miles down Parkville Road, you will reach a complex of barns and farmhouse at a curve in the road. This is Parkville Ranch! Stop here! At 5810 Parkville Road. Call 365-8403 if you get lost. Hope to see you there!

~ Susan Libonati

~ Marla Knight
GETTING READY FOR THE PLANT SALE: We Need Your Help!

Sometimes it seems like I’m always asking for your help, but that’s because there is so much to do to have a successful plant sale. The pre-sale work party will be Friday, October 12, from 9 AM to 12 PM, during which we will focus specifically on preparing for the sale on the following day. The members-only pre-sale will be later in the day on October 12, from 3 to 5 PM. Please note that this is a time change from previous years!

We need help moving plants around, putting up plant signs, making sure all of the plants have species tags, and doing whatever else needs to be done to prepare. It’s pretty much heavy labor, but there’s no better way to find out what’s going to be for sale later in the day and on the following day.

Help is also needed the following day at the plant sale. We need folks to direct shoppers, help people find requested plant species, help shoppers load plants into cars, tally plants to help move the check-out process along, and answer plant and gardening-related questions. If you don’t feel you have enough knowledge to answer questions (and you probably do), don’t worry, there are plenty of other needs that don’t require plant knowledge. We’re expecting a big turnout this year and your help will make the whole sale more successful. This is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow CNPSers and other avid gardeners.

If you’d like to help at any stage of the event, please give me a call at 778-9884, or just show up at those times. See you there! 😊

~ Susan Erwin

2008 Symposium
Northern California Plant Life: Celebrating What We Have With An Eye To The Future
Monday & Tuesday, January 14-15, 2008
California State University, Chico

This is the second annual symposium sponsored by Northern California Botanists! The various topics presented at these symposia concentrate on northern California botany, always looking for links between the worlds of applied and academic botany. Learn from two days of speaker presentations and panel discussions! Network and meet other botanists at the Monday evening reception and banquet with keynote speaker.

Symposium topics planned for 2008 include: Rare plant monitoring and management; Wetland restoration and mitigation; Ethnobotany and vegetation management; Going underground; How to be a botanist; Global climate change; Vegetation mapping and conservation; and Northern California botanical discoveries

Check the Northern California Botanists website (www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/norcalbot/index.htm) for updates. Details will be available soon. 😊

~ Lawrence Janeway

Events of Others


September 22, Saturday. Fieldtrip to Clear Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant at 8 AM. Audubon Society. Rob Santry (365-8217) and Bob Yutzy (246-2515).


October 13, Saturday. Second Saturday fieldtrip to Turtle Bay. Meet at the parking lot behind the monolith at Turtle Bay at 8 AM. Audubon Society. Connie Word: 245-0846.

October 27, Saturday. All-day fieldtrip to Fall River Mills. Meet at Redding Convention Center at 7:30 AM. Audubon Society. Bob Yutzy: 246-2515.

WORKSHOPS

CSU Chico Herbarium Workshops

The last of the 2007 workshops from Friends of the Biological Sciences Herbarium, CSU, Chico, are listed below. For details about these Saturday workshops and registration, please go to www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html. For further information, please call Lawrence Janeway, curator, at 898-5381.

September 8: Introduction to Keying the Sunflowers (Asteraceae)

October 20: Introduction to Identifying Northern California Grasses (Poaceae)

Jepson Herbarium

The last of the Friends of the Jepson Herbarium 2007 workshops are listed below. Unless otherwise specified, workshops are held at UC Berkeley. Course descriptions are available at ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops, or call Cynthia Perrine at 510/643-7008 for further information.

September 8 - 9: History of Tanoak in California (Frederica Bowcutt)

November 9 - 11: Mycorrhizae at Albion Field Station (Teresa Sholars & Matteo Garbelotto)

CNPS Plant Science Training Program

For more information, visit the CNPS state website at http://cnps.org/cnps/education/ or contact Josie Crawford at 916/447-2677 or jcrawford@cnps.org

October 16 - 18: Vegetation Mapping, UC Berkeley/Mount Tamalpais (Todd Keeler-Wolf, Julie Evens & John Menke)

November 7 - 8: Riparian Ecology and Plant Identification for Professional Botanists, Casitas Springs, Ventura Co. (David Magney & Cher Batchelor)
September 20 Thursday  Chapter Meeting. Welcome back to the first meeting after the long summer! Join Pete & Judy Haggard from the Eureka area for a talk about their new book, *Insects of the Pacific Northwest*, published in 2006. The slideshow and talk will include a sample of the insects and invertebrates in their book, their life histories and their relationships with native plants. Pete & Judy will discuss the importance of native plants in the garden and their role in attracting native insects and other wildlife. Pete has a BS in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University and Judy holds a MA in Biology from Humboldt State University. These active members of the North Coast Chapter CNPS have published articles about insects/plants and have conducted fieldtrips, classes and workshops. Pete and Judy will have copies of their new book available at the meeting for purchase and signing. Meet at 6:30 PM at our new location at the Redding Public Library on Parkview Avenue, west of City Hall. A Board meeting will be held at 5:30 PM, at the same location, before the general meeting.

September 22 Saturday  Annual Bring-a-Friend Fall Potluck Picnic. A fun, autumn picnic will be hosted on Saturday from 4 to 7 PM at Dave & Sandy DuBose's historic Parkville Ranch. Bring a friend, the kids, a chair and a dish to share. We're hoping to attract new members and have a great time with the members we already know. (See article, p. 2) For more information and to RSVP, please call Martin Van Orsow, Membership Drive Chair, at 474-1732.

September 23 Sunday  Plant Weeding/Readiness Session. One- to two-hour work session starting at 10 AM at the Shasta College greenhouses. The greenhouses are located near the back of Shasta College, by the livestock barns. We will be weeding and getting plants spiffed up for the October 13 Fall Plant Sale. Bring clippers and any other tools you might need. Please call Susan Erwin at 778-9884 for further information.

October 12 Friday  Plant Sale Preparation Work Party. 9 AM-12 PM. Come help weed, organize and label plants for the sale on Saturday. This is a work party only; plants will not be available for sale until the pre-sale at 3 PM. Meet at the Shasta College greenhouses located near the back of Shasta College, by the livestock barns. (See article, p. 3) Call Susan Erwin at 778-9884 for further information.

October 12 Friday  Members-only Pre-sale. 3-5 PM at the Shasta College greenhouses located near the back of Shasta College, by the livestock barns. Buy plants before the sale opens to the public on Saturday! Plant sales are open to standing members only, but memberships will be sold at the gate. (See articles, p. 1 & 3) Call Susan Erwin at 778-9884 for further information.

October 13 Saturday  25th Annual Native Plant Sale. The public plant sale will be from 9 AM to 12 PM at the Shasta College Farm/greenhouses. The greenhouses are located at the northeast end of the Shasta College campus, near the livestock barns. Buy plants, books, posters and many other items related to the native flora of California. Gates will open at 9 AM—no early birds, please. (See article, p. 1) Call Susan Erwin at 778-9884 for information.

October 14 Sunday  Fieldtrip for Fall Colors. This year we will wait until the week of the fieldtrip to figure out where the color is occurring. We will meet at 8 AM in the Redding City Hall parking lot at 777 Cypress Avenue. We’ll be at the back (south) side of the building, next to Parkview Avenue—just west of the Cypress Avenue bridge over the Sacramento River. Heavy rain cancels. Call Jay or Terri Thesken for details: 221-0906.

October 18 Thursday  Chapter Meeting. Jennifer Gibson, ecologist with the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, will give us a presentation about Fire Ecology at Whiskeytown, with discussions about the pine and oak woodlands in this popular local national park. Join us for her talk at 6:30 PM at our new location at the Redding Public Library on Parkview Avenue, west of City Hall. A Board meeting will be held at 5:30 PM, at the same location, before the general meeting.

2007 Officers
President: Susan Libonati-Barnes, 347-4654; libonati@earthlink.com
Vice-President: Pat Gilbert, 225-2066; pgilb@parks.ca.gov
Treasurer: Pete Figura, 229-7781; pfigura@dfg.ca.gov
Secretary: Dan Fehr, 246-1910; dfehr@dfg.ca.gov
25th Annual

Native Plant Sale

9 to 12 • Saturday • October 13
Shasta College Greenhouses, Redding

Featuring
Difficult-to-find natives
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For more information call
778-9884 or 347-4654