President’s Message

I am truly inspired by how much our CNPS members accomplish every year: encouraging native plant gardens, protecting rare plants, supporting schoolkids and college students, and tirelessly educating the public. The plants, wildlife, students, and public really appreciate our efforts. Thank you, thank you, thank you from me personally. So, welcome back from your summer travels, and looking forward to seeing you at some of the wonderful events and programs coming soon (see Calendar, back page).

Fall Plant Sale

Fall is the ideal time of year to get your native plantings growing. Our Fall Plant Sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 26 (9 AM to 2 PM), with a set-up (2 to 5 PM) and a Members-Only Pre-Sale (4 to 6 PM) on Friday. We have lots of plants of many kinds, all fluffy and green and ready for your garden. This fall, we have 50 fremontia (California flannelbush) for sale. Many of you have asked for these in the past, so shop early for best selection. We also have California lilac, California fuchsia, redbud, spicebush, spiraea, and many other favorites. Coffeeberry, coyotebush, and saltbush are a few very successful “mother shrubs.” They are so tough that they really help a new bed of native plants get established. Our experts will be on hand to answer all your gardening questions and even help design your native planting bed. We will also have books, posters, and cards for sale. This year, Shasta College plants also will be available for sale.

Plant Propagation

An upcoming Plant Propagation date of note is September 20, 10 AM to noon. Please come and help us prepare for the Fall Plant Sale. A huge thank you to everyone who has helped so far this year (a full list will be published after the plant sale). However, the special 110-Degree Award must go to Susan Gallaugher, Chris Gray, and Margaret Widdowson, who braved the July heat and made emergency repairs to the watering system. And, as always, special thanks to Leimone Waite and Shasta College’s Horticulture Program.

Susan Libonati,
President
Fieldtrip Follow-ups

**Bumpass Hell to Kings Creek**

As Redding broiled in +100-degree heat, five CNPSers took a cool, mid-week wildflower hike in Lassen National Park on Thursday, July 30. Skies were bright blue and temperatures were in the 70s as we hiked the 4.4-mile trail from Bumpass Hell parking lot to Kings Creek picnic area. We saw two yellow-bellied marmots among the rock scree on the side of the trail that led to the bubbling mudpots and hissing fumaroles of Bumpass Hell. We encountered several types of conifers there, including mountain hemlock, whitebark pine, western white pine and red fir. The hike continued past the volcanic marvels of Bumpass Hell, to green and blooming hillside meadows and views of Crumbaugh Lake and Cold Boiling Lake. Lunch was eaten in the shade of pines, hemlock and fir at Cold Boiling Lake. On the trail we encountered many shrub species such as chinquapin, mountain ash, pinemat manzanita, spirea, red heather and willow. Bloomers included Lemmon’s paintbrush, Applegate’s paintbrush, Newberry’s penstemon, Davidson’s penstemon, meadow penstemon, Lewis’ monkeyflower, common monkeyflower, coyote mint, phacelia, leopard lily, sulphur buckwheat, corn lily, rein orchid, monkshood, fireweed, larkspur, cinquefoil, ranger buttons, coralroot, cow parsnip, bleeding heart, Leichtlin’s mariposa lily, arrowleaf balsamroot, pearly everlasting, aster, Coulter daisy, onion, stream lupine, and silverleaf lupine. We also saw several species of fern, including bracken fern and sword fern.

Summer is a great time for seeing spring wildflowers at Lassen, and for getting out of the valley heat!

**Climb to Stonewall Pass**

On Saturday, August 8, eleven intrepid hikers showed up for a fieldtrip in the Trinity Alps Wilderness. **Shauna Hee**, botanist with Shasta-Trinity National Forest, led the arduous hike up to fabulous views from Stonewall Pass, perched between Granite Peak and Red Mountain. The ten-mile round-trip hike involved a 2700-foot elevation change as we climbed up through various vegetative zones, including manzanita/ponderosa pine/Jeffrey pine at the lower zone; through shady forests of fir, cedar, and pine; and finally to the higher elevations with western white pine and foxtail pine at the open summit. We passed through Red Mountain Meadows and through various springs, which gave us the opportunity to see such unusual flowering species as *Epilobium oreganum* and *Gentiana calycosa*. At the top of Stonewall Pass, views were spectacular and the timing was perfect to see *Epilobium siskiyouense* and *Veronica copelandii*.

Fieldtrippers enjoyed a great dinner afterwards at the Bears Breath restaurant at the Trinity Alps Resort on Stuarts Fork of the Trinity River, and arrived home past 10 PM! We all had a great time; many thanks go to Shauna for leading an incredible fieldtrip. ✨

Native Plant Garden Tour 2010

Just a short note to our members that the Shasta Chapter CNPS Board has set our next native plant garden tour for May 15, 2010. As in the past, we need to find five or six private gardens that fit the native plant garden criteria. Therefore, this month is a great time to start searching for gardens to be in the next garden tour. Please contact me at 221-4280 or dfjorca@charter.net if you are interested in showing your garden, or if you know any non-members who you think might be interested in showing their gardens. Thank you. ✨

-Donal Jonio
Garden Tour Chairperson

Tree Planting with Rico Montenegro

I will be doing a tree planting program at the end of October in collaboration with the City of Redding at two local parks. I will also do a program on tree selection, planting and proper cultural practices in conjunction with the planting. For those interested, please contact me by e-mail (ricosplants@hotmail.com) or by phone (365-1920).

Members may also be interested to see the following clip I did for Kashi Foods, which began showing on TV in August:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IoCOVOHx78k ✨

-Rico Montenegro

New Garden and Interpretive Trail

The Siskiyou Arboretum will unveil its first demonstration garden and interpretive trail at Upper Greenhorn Park in Yreka, October 10 at 10 AM. The garden is designed to showcase the use of decorative native plants in a water-conserving landscape, and the trail will identify larger shrubs and trees along the reservoir’s walking path. Come help us celebrate Yreka’s unique and beautiful botanic heritage. ✨

-Terri Thesken
Alpine Wetland and Rare Plant Population Imperiled

The conservation-minded will be interested to read the following letter, written by Shasta Chapter CNPS member Julie Kierstead Nelson, that details an unfortunate situation on Mount Shasta involving an alpine wetland and a population of the rare Wilkins’ harebell.

August 4, 2009

Allison Chin, President
Sierra Club National Headquarters
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Chin:

I am baffled and disappointed by the decision of the Sierra Club Foundation’s Horse Camp Committee (HCC) to build a trail through an alpine wetland and globally imperiled wildflower population on Mt. Shasta. When I first learned the trail had been built in summer of 2008, I thought there must be some mistake; that the HCC didn’t know that Wilkins’ harebell, the rare plant, was present on the site—why would a premier conservation group do such a thing intentionally? However, conversations with Foundation staff and their local HCC volunteers made it clear that the trail was built with full knowledge of the damage inflicted to the environment. The purpose of the new route was to make the trail safer for climbers; the easiest reroute was through the wetland, and the fact that rare plants were in the way was just too bad. The Foundation owns an entire square mile of land in the Mt. Shasta Wilderness Area—surely in all that real estate there is another trail route that is both safe and environmentally benign.

A Foundation staff member in San Francisco told me they prefer to leave management decisions to their local committee, and they would consider rerouting the trail only if someone else came up with money and labor to do the work.

It is time for the Horse Camp Committee—and their parent organization, the Sierra Club Foundation—to model good conservation leadership, and find a better trail route. The wetland is already noticeably dried out below the trail cut. Get a better trail built and the wetland restored before snow flies this fall. It’s not too late to fix this lapse in judgment and environmental stewardship, although it may take some time for the alpine wetland and the Wilkins’ harebell to recover. For more information on Wilkins’ harebell, which is known from fewer than twenty sites, all of them on Mt. Shasta or the high Trinity Alps, visit http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/ and type ‘Wilkins harebell’ in the Species Quick Search box.

Sincerely,

Julie Kierstead Nelson
dafoil.dones@gmail.com

cc: Peter Martin, Sierra Club Foundation

Members wishing to address this issue should direct their comments to Allison Chin, President of Sierra Club, or Peter Martin, President of Sierra Club Foundation, both at 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105.
State CNPS Educational Grants Available

Each year, the State CNPS Educational Grants program receives funding to help support field research related to California’s native plants. Students, CNPS members, and postdoctoral botanists are eligible, in that order, for grants that are generally not more than $1000. Proposals should involve taxa or plant communities that are of concern due to direct or indirect potential impacts. The grants need to be relevant to our conservation mission. Certain small endowed funds are available specifically for graduate students planning research involving rare plants or evolutionary botany.

If you are interested in obtaining support from CNPS for your work, request a copy of the guidelines (for drafting and submitting a proposal) from the state CNPS office. Requests for this or other information can be directed to Chair, Educational Grants Committee, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113. Completed proposals must be received in the CNPS office no later than September 30.

Shasta Chapter CNPS Directory

Address: PO Box 990194, Redding, CA 96099-0194
Website: www.shastacnps.org

2009 Officers
President – Susan Libonati (347-4654)
Vice-President – Pat Gilbert (225-2066)
Treasurer – Pete Figura (229-7781)
Secretary – Margaret Widdowson (223-4732)

Acorn Grant Committee Chair – Donal Jonio (221-4280)
Fieldtrip Chairs – Jay & Terri Thesken (221-0906)
Newsletter Editor – Laurie Burk (347-0849)
Plant Propagation Manager – Susan Libonati (347-4654)
Scholarship Committee Chair – Jay Thesken (221-0906)
Web Master – Greg Lockett (greg.lockett@att.net)

Shasta Herbarium Workshops

The Friends of the Shasta Herbarium are offering the following workshops at UC Berkeley (unless otherwise indicated). All require pre-registration and a fee. Details on the workshops can be found at http://shastacnps.org/education/shasta-workshops.html. For further information, contact Josie Crawford at jcrawford@cnps.org or 916/447-2677 ext. 205.


Plant Science Training Workshops

The Plant Science Training Program provides workshops for professional botanists, biologists, and ecologists to teach the skills and provide the tools and resources for conducting sound scientific surveys for rare plants, rare plant communities, vegetation, and wetlands. The following is a list of the remaining 2009 offerings. For further information about the Plant Science Training Program, or to register, go to http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/index.php, or contact Josie Crawford at jcrawford@cnps.org or 916/447-2677 ext. 205.


Jepson Herbarium Weekend Workshops

The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium are offering the following weekend workshops at UC Berkeley (unless otherwise indicated). All require pre-registration and a fee. Details on the workshops can be found at http://jcrawford@cnps.org or 916/447-2677 ext. 205.

November 14: Growing and Propagating Native Plants for the Garden. Germain Boivin and John Whittlesey.
November 21: Basics of Native Grass Seed Collection and Storage. Linnea Hanson and Susan Erwin.

October 10. From Plant Press to Publication: An Introduction to Herbarium Specimen Curation. Andrew Doran.
Events of Others


September 12, Saturday. Second Saturday Bird Walk. 8 AM. Meet at the north parking lot of Shasta College. Wintu Chapter of the Audubon Society. webmaster@wintuaudubon.org


September 13, Sunday. Hike: Colby Meadow. 8:30 AM at the Chico Park and Ride (Hwys 99 and 32). Lassen Chapter CNPS. Wes Dempsey: 342-2293.

September 17, Thursday. Talk: Water-Wise Plants, with Ellen Zagory, Director of Horticulture at UC Davis. 7 PM. Fee. Turtle Bay. 242-3178.

September 19, Saturday. Talk: Gardening with California Natives, with Susan Libonati. 10 AM to 12 PM. Fee. McConnell Arboretum & Botanical Gardens. 242-3178.

September 26, Saturday. National Public Lands Day Clean-Up. 9 AM. Meet at the HCCP parking lot (orange pipe gate) on Clear Creek Road. Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve. 241-2026.


October 3, Saturday. Community Creek Clean-Up. 8 AM to 12 PM. Meet on the Sacramento River Trail at the Diestelhorst Bridge. Trails & Bikeways Council. 365-5852.


October 10, Saturday. Search for the Spawning Salmon. 9 AM. Meet at the HCCP parking lot (orange pipe gate) on Clear Creek Road. Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve. 241-2026.

October 10, Saturday. Second Saturday Bird Walk. 8 AM. Meet at Turtle Bay. Wintu Chapter of the Audubon Society. webmaster@wintuaudubon.org

October 23-25. Mushrooming Arts and Crafts $100

October 24, Saturday. River Float: Jelly’s Ferry to Bend Bridge. Fee. Sacramento River Preservation Trust. 345-1865.

October 24, Saturday. Wild Trout & Fly Fishing in Clear Creek. 2 PM. Meet at the HCCP parking lot (orange pipe gate) on Clear Creek Road. Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve. 241-2026.

October 31, Saturday. Autumn Walk with Canyon Views. 9 AM. Meet at the HCCP parking lot (orange pipe gate) on Clear Creek Road. Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve. 241-2026.

SFI Classes

The Siskiyou Field Institute is offering the following Fall courses. The registration deadline is two weeks prior to the class start date. All classes take place in Selma, Oregon. For further information, please visit their web site at www.thesfi.org, or contact Cory Alvis at 541/597-8530, or cory@thesfi.org

September 19
Trees and Shrubs of the Illinois Valley $50

September 26
Nature Photography Workshop $25

September 26-27
Nature Sketching with Color $100

October 23-25
Mushrooming Arts and Crafts $100

November 6-7
Edible Mushrooms of Southern Oregon $50

November 13-15
Mushrooms! $140
Shasta Chapter CNPS Calendar of Events

September 17
Thursday

Chapter Meeting. Welcome back to our first meeting after the long summer! Join Jay & Terri Thesken, Shasta Chapter members, for a slideshow presentation of plants (and animals!) observed on their June trip to Peru, Ecuador and The Galapagos Islands. Meet at 6 PM in the Community Room of the Redding Public Library on Parkview Avenue, west of City Hall. A Board meeting will be held after the meeting.

September 19
Saturday

Fieldtrip to Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. Join CNPS member David Ledger for a fieldtrip to the Tower House/Mill Creek area of Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. We will see the riparian habitat along Mill Creek, as well as plants going to seed and preparing for fall/winter dormancy, and mushrooms or lichen. This is a relatively easy, 2- to 3-hour walk of about three miles, with several creek crossings requiring some agility. Bring water, snacks, hiking shoes and insect repellent. We will meet at 8:30 AM at the Redding City Hall parking lot to carpool, on the back (south) side of the building, next to Parkview Avenue. Or meet at 9 AM at the Whiskeytown Visitor Center on Highway 299. Call David Ledger for more information: 222-5677 or 355-9442.

September 20
Sunday

Plant Weeding 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 ready for the Fall Plant Sale, which will be Saturday, September 26. Bring clippers and any other tools you might need. Please call Susan Libonati (347-4654) or Jay & Terri Thesken (221-0906) for further information.

September 25
Friday

Fall Plant Sale Preparation Work Party. 2 to 5 PM. Come help weed, organize and label plants for the sale on Saturday. This is a work party; plants will not be available for sale to members until the pre-sale at 4 PM. Meet at the Shasta College greenhouses.

Members-Only Pre-Sale. 4 to 6 PM at the Shasta College greenhouses. CNPS members have an opportunity to buy plants before the sale opens to the public on Saturday! Plant sales are open to standing CNPS members only, but memberships will be sold. Call Jay & Terri Thesken at 221-0906 or Susan Libonati at 347-4654 for information or directions, or to volunteer!

September 26
Saturday

26th Annual Fall Native Plant Sale. The public sale will be from 9 AM to 2 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. We have a great selection of plants this year! Gates will open at 9 AM; no early birds, please. Call Jay & Terri Thesken at 221-0906 or Susan Libonati at 347-4654 for information or to volunteer to help on the day of the sale.

October 15
Thursday

Chapter Meeting. Join us for an evening with Cajun James of Sierra Pacific Industries in Anderson. Cajun is a Research and Monitoring Manager with SPI and will give us a review of wildlife and plant management in timber harvest plans. Meet at 6 PM in the Community Room of the Redding Public Library on Parkview Avenue, west of City Hall. A Board meeting will be held after the meeting.

October 24
Saturday

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, on the back (south) side of the building, next to Parkview Avenue. City Hall address is 777 Cypress Avenue—just west of the Cypress Avenue bridge over the Sacramento River. Heavy rain cancels. Call Jay & Terri Thesken for details: 221-0906.

November 8
Sunday

Another Fall Colors Fieldtrip! If we miss the fall colors in October, this fieldtrip will give us a second chance. Location to be determined. We will meet at 8 AM in the Redding City Hall parking lot, on the back (south) side of the building, next to Parkview Avenue. City Hall address is 777 Cypress Avenue—just west of the Cypress Avenue bridge over the Sacramento River. Heavy rain cancels. Call Jay & Terri Thesken for details: 221-0906.

A Warm Welcome to New Chapter Members!
Fran Collier, Burney
Mosette Eibert, Redding
Katy Redmon, Petaluma
The Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society presents its 26th Annual Native Plant Sale

Saturday
September 26
9 to 2
Shasta College Greenhouses
Redding

featuring:
Hardy growers
Difficult-to-find natives
Drought-tolerant plants
Native-plant expertise
Notecards
Posters
Books
Etc.

For more information, please call 221-0906 or 347-4654

Photograph of Eschscholzia californica by Denise Dethlefsen