President’s Message
Dear Members,

As a new officer on the Shasta Chapter CNPS Board of Directors, I have become acutely aware of the importance of volunteers to the viability of our chapter. This month I would like to give special recognition to a pair of longtime, behind-the-scenes volunteers—Laurie Burk and her husband, Don Burk. Don, along with Barbara Williams, was a co-founder of the Shasta Chapter of CNPS over 28 years ago. The closest chapter to us at that time was the Lassen Chapter CNPS in Chico. Don has been involved in the production of the Firecracker since its inception, and Laurie helped with the typing (pre-computers!). For the past 10 years, Laurie has been the editor responsible for the extremely professional look of our chapter newsletter. Kudos to the two of you.

- Ken Kilborn
Shasta Chapter CNPS President

Scholarship Status

Scholarship applications and announcements have been sent out to all of our regional high schools, community colleges and media outlets. The Scholarship Committee will be reviewing the submitted applications and expects to announce the recipients at the May Chapter meeting, and will introduce the recipients at the June meeting to be held at Shasta College.

-Jay Thesken,
Scholarship Committee Chair

A Warm Welcome to New Chapter Members!

Susannah Fulton, Redding
Antonio Larocco, Chico
Linda McGunagle, Redding
Barbara Peck, Anderson

2010 Native Plant Garden Tour

Join us for the third Native Plants in the Landscape Garden Tour presented by the Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. This event will be held on Saturday, May 15, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Tickets with addresses and maps to the private gardens are available at local nurseries (Wyntour Gardens, Gold Leaf Nursery, Creekside Gardens, Red Bluff Garden Center) and cost $5 each.

The tour features five private gardens in the Redding area, ranging from city-lot size gardens crammed with wonderful features, to large suburban gardens with sweeping views of mountains and river, to a mature native plant garden in a public space. Gardens feature native plants; drought-tolerant companion plants; and ideas for attracting birds, dealing with deer, and coexisting with pets. These gardens are beautiful, waterwise, diverse works of skill and love. Be inspired by our gardeners; get advice and lots of ideas for waterwise gardening; see mature native plants in landscapes; and purchase native plants, books, and bird items.

We still need a few more volunteers to help out with the tour. The largest portion of help is needed to sit at one of the gardens to greet our public guests, and to set-up and oversee our plant sale. Whatever time you can spend will be much appreciated. My email address and phone number are listed below. Thank you all, and see you on the tour!

- Donal Jonio
Garden Tour Chair
221-4280; djforca@charter.net
Sign up for Summer Plant Watch!

This summer we will need volunteers to watch the plants at Shasta College that are waiting for the fall Plant Sale. In past years, we have had some trouble with the watering system. We are asking for volunteers to take one week during the summer to visit the plants to check and make sure the water is on. This would involve two to three visits in a week, for 5 to 10 minutes each visit. We need about 8 to 10 volunteers. Please call Susan Libonati at 347-4654 to sign up! ✪

Mother’s Day Wildflower Show

The Shasta Chapter CNPS and the Klamath National Forest will host the 17th Annual Siskiyou County Wildflower Show on Mother’s Day Sunday, May 9, from 10 AM to 4 PM. The show will be held at the Siskiyou Golden Fair Grounds, 1712 Fairlane Road, in Yreka. (Take the Fort Jones exit off I-5, and then north on Fairlane to the sign.)

Depending on how the spring weather progresses, the display will include up to 300 fresh, labeled samples of local native wildflowers, shrubs, grasses, ferns, mosses and lichens. Botanists and reference materials will be on hand to help answer questions. The Shasta Chapter will be staffing a booth offering books, posters, t-shirts and membership information. There will also be other educational displays.

Attending the Siskiyou County Wildflower Show is a perfect way to celebrate the moms in your life. There is no charge for the event, so bring the whole family up to Siskiyou County for the day. If you can help with setting up/identifying/labeling/collection on Saturday, May 8, or with staffing the CNPS table on Sunday, please contact me (468-1238 daytime; 468-2787 evenings) or Jay & Terri Thesken at 221-0906. Hope to see you there on Mother’s Day! ✪

~Marla Knight

Shasta College Spring Plant Sale

April showers lightened up just in time for the three-day plant sale April 15-17 at Shasta College. Shasta Chapter CNPS sold over 700 California native plants! Many thanks to members who were drenched in the rain-and-hail downpour during set-up time on Wednesday afternoon, and to those who donated their time and expertise to sell plants over the three days! We couldn’t do this without all of our dedicated volunteers and propagators. ✪

Left to right: Terri Thesken, Susan Libonati, Celeste & Chase Lentz in the rain during set-up for the Shasta College Spring Plant Sale, April 14.

Ken Kilborn, Celeste Chase and Wayne Steffes in the rain during set-up for the Shasta College Spring Plant Sale, April 14.
Fieldtrip Follow-Ups

Swasey BLM Trails Hike

On Sunday, February 28, sixteen CNPSers joined up for an early spring fieldtrip to the Swasey BLM trails in the foothills west of Redding. With beautiful blue skies and a bald eagle soaring overhead, we took a loop hike of about 3 miles and were treated to some early bloomers including buttercup, shooting stars, blue dicks, and some beautiful purple fritillary! California buckeye and elderberry were freshly leafed-out, and we spotted several oracle oaks along with interior live oak and black oak. Poison oak seems to be extra healthy this year and was also just leafing out. White-leaved manzanita was blooming and we saw brand new wavyleaf soap plant, sanicle, lomatium, bedstraw, gold-backed fern, cudweed, and honeysuckle, among many others. These trails are close to town and support abundant wildflowers in this foothill pine-oak woodland.

-Terri Thesken

Salt Creek Hike

On Saturday, March 27, eighteen happy hikers forded Salt Creek in west Redding and walked the canyon and along part of the Sacramento River trail. At this time of year, the ferns are at their best, and eight of the nine ferns that are known to occur there were spotted. David Fritchle led the hike and had marked the trail to indicate the various fern species, but the chalk marks had been rained out! We saw Indian’s dream, maidenhair, gold-backed, fragile fern, swordfern, nested polypody, giant chain fern and a pressed bird’s-foot fern. Only wood fern was missed. In flower were shooting stars, valley buttercups, Indian warrior, redbud, hound’s-tongue, buckbrush, purple sanicle, Pacific snake root, vinca major, common viburnum, apple blossoms, both California and coast manroot, white-leaved manzanita, white-leaved lupine, watercress, honesty, spring draba, fringe-pod mustard, chickweed, spring beauty, miner’s lettuce, mountain mahogany, skunkbush, pipevine, woodland star, blue dicks, both a white- and a yellow-flowering lomatium, Carolina geranium, California poppy, both red and purple fritillaria, and pussy ears. An unknown red flower stumped us. It was just the beginning of the grass season, and bulbous bluegrass, California melic, pine bluegrass, and broomsedge (a grass) were obvious. Several other species were in full bud so April-May walks along Salt Creek should be very showy.

-David Fritchle

Seasons in the Underworld

A display of photographer Ken DeCamp’s beautiful images of Whiskeytown’s wildflowers is on exhibit at the Whiskeytown Visitor Center through May 16. Ken is the photographer and artist who created the flier for our Mother’s Day Wildflower Show, included in this newsletter (see our website for the color version of this poster). The Whiskeytown Visitor Center is open daily from 10 AM to 4 AM.

Keep an eye out for Ken on one of your favorite trails in the future: he will be the guy lying in the dirt photographing some obscure wildflower or slime mold that you didn’t even know existed. He asks that you say “hi” as you step over him and remember his motto, “Take time to enjoy the little things underfoot because the big picture wouldn’t be the same without them.”

For more information, call the Whiskeytown Visitor Center at 246-1225. You can view more of Ken’s amazing work and his photographic collections of wildflowers, lichens, mushrooms and other fungi, slime molds, trees, waterfalls, and wildlife by visiting his website at www.kendecampphotography.com
Siskiyou Field Institute Events

The Siskiyou Field Institute and Deer Creek Center is offering the following events in April. All take place at the Deer Creek Center in Selma, Oregon. For further information, please visit their website at www.thesfi.org, or contact Cory Alvis at 541/597-8530 ext. 309, or cory@thesfi.org

May 8-9. Wildland Grasses: ID of Native and Naturalized Grasses. $100

May 15. The Sixth Extinction and the Future of Medicine: A Class on the Plight of Medicinal Plants. $25

May 16. Botany for Beginners: Enter the Botanical Universe! $50

June 5. Wetland & Riparian Ecology. $50


Chico Herbarium Workshops

The spring workshops offered by CSU, Chico, Friends of the Herbarium are listed below. All fall on Saturdays and are conducted on the CSU, Chico, campus. For details about these workshops and registration information, please go to www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html


Jepson Herbarium Weekend Workshops

The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium is offering the following spring and summer 2010 workshops. All require pre-registration and fees. Unless otherwise noted, workshops take place at UC Berkeley, and surrounding areas. Details on the workshops can be found at http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/. For further information, contact jepsonworkshops@berkeley.edu or 510/643-7008.


May 15-16. Poaceae. Travis Columbus. (Location: Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Woodside, CA.)

May 21-23. Poaceae. Barbara Wilson, Nick Otting and Richard Brainerd. (Location: McLaughlin Reserve, Lower Lake.)

May 27-30. Seaweeds of Northern California. Kathy Ann Miller. (Location: Bodega Marine Laboratory, Bodega Bay and surrounding locations.)

June 3-6. Rare Flora of the Kings River Canyon. Dana York. (Location: Canyon View Campground, Kings Canyon National Park and Sequoia National Forest.)


July 28-August 1. Flora and Ecology of the Steens Mountains. Donald Mansfield and Richard Miller. (Location: Fish Lake Campground, Harney County, Oregon.)

August 4-8. Backpacking in the Alpine and Subalpine of Yosemite National Park: A Flora of Lyell Canyon in Four Days. Steve Botti and Tom Leatherman. (Location: Tuolumne Meadows Campground, Yosemite Association Loop, Yosemite National Park.)

August 12-15. Carex. Peter Zika. (Location: SNARL Field Station, Mammoth Lakes.)

September 13-23. Ferns of Hawai`i. Alan Smith. (Location: Kaua`i: Koke`e State Park CCC Camp; Hawai`i: Volcano Inn.)

CNPS Workshops and Professional Training

The following comprise the spring 2010 CNPS workshop offerings. Discounted registration fees are offered to CNPS members. See http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/ for descriptions and registration. Please contact Josie Crawford at jcrayford@cnps.org or 916/447-2677 ext. 205 for further information.


May 15. Saturday. Sutter Buttes Hike. 8 AM to 3 PM. Sacramento River Preservation Trust and Yuba Historical Society. 345-1865.


May 22. Saturday. Capay River Unit Opening. 8 AM to 10 AM. Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge. 934-2801.


Planting Party Invitation

I’d like to invite all who may be interested in participating in a community fruit tree planting event to come to Shasta Meadows Elementary School on Saturday, May 8, at 10 AM. This is one of several on-going projects for which the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation donates and helps plant fruit tree orchards in schools in the Redding area. The school is located at 2825 Yana Avenue. For more information, please contact me at 365-1920.

-Rico Montenegro

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Shasta Chapter CNPS Directory

**ADDRESS:** PO Box 990194, Redding, CA 96099-0194
**WEBSITE:** [www.shastacnps.org](http://www.shastacnps.org)

**2010 OFFICERS**
**PRESIDENT** – Ken Kilborn (221-2339)
**VICE PRESIDENT** – Pete Figura (229-7781)
**TREASURER** – Terri Thesken (221-0906)
**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@gmail.com)
**Shasta Chapter CNPS Calendar of Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td><strong>Annual Mother’s Day Wildflower Show.</strong> Sponsored by Shasta Chapter CNPS and Klamath National Forest. Hundreds of native plants and wildflowers will be on display at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds in Yreka (first northbound exit off of I-5). This is a fantastic display (and it’s free!) and a special place to take Moms. 10 AM to 4 PM. If you would like to volunteer to help with the exhibit (Saturday or Sunday), or sell books and posters, please contact <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> at 221-0966 or <strong>Marla Knight</strong> at 468-1238.</td>
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<td>May 15</td>
<td><strong>Native Plants in the Landscape Garden Tour.</strong> See five gardens in the Redding/Anderson/Palo Cedro area that incorporate and highlight native plants and companion planting. The tour will run from 10 AM to 4 PM, and will include native plants for sale as well as birding information. We can use volunteers to help out at the various gardens. Please call <strong>Donal Jonio</strong> to help at 221-4280. (See article, page 1.)</td>
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<td>May 20</td>
<td><strong>Chapter Meeting.</strong> Join <strong>Len Lindstrand,</strong> wildlife biologist and terrestrial biology program manager with North State Resources in Redding, for a presentation about recent studies and updates on two rare shrubs in the vicinity of Shasta Lake. This compliments many of our fieldtrips to the Shasta Lake area. Meet at our new time and location: 7 PM at the Shasta College Health Science and University Programs building in downtown Redding, 1400 Market Street, Community Room 8220 (clock tower building at the north end of the Market Street Promenade; enter on south side of building). A Board meeting will be held before the regular meeting, at 5:30 PM at Angelo’s Pizza Parlour in the Foundry Square, 1774 California Street, Redding.</td>
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<td>May 23</td>
<td><strong>Plant Propagation Session.</strong> 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 near the livestock barns. We will be weeding and transplanting nursery starts and rooted cuttings. Bring clippers and any other tools you might need. Please call <strong>Susan Libonati</strong> at 347-4654 for further information.</td>
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<td>May 29</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip.</strong> Join member <strong>David Ledger</strong> for a fieldtrip to the Lily Pond trail and adjacent areas in Lassen National Park. This will be an easy 3-mile walk at 5,800 ft. in elevation to see trees, shrubs and early spring wildflowers of the mid-montane area of Lassen National Park. Meet in Redding at 9 AM at the back side of City Hall (Parkview Avenue side), 777 Cypress Avenue. Call David Ledger at 355-9442 for details.</td>
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<td>June 17</td>
<td><strong>Chapter Meeting.</strong> This will be an outdoor Chapter meeting to kick off the summer at our growing grounds/greenhouse area of Shasta College. This will be a potluck dinner, so bring a potluck dish to share, and also lawn chairs. Dinner will be around 6 PM. We will introduce the scholarship recipients and perhaps some of the past scholarship recipients at this meeting. Directions: take Old Oregon Trail to Shasta College’s main entrance. After turning into the College property, take the loop road past the theater parking lot, past the large student parking lot and welding building on the left, then turn right through the gate at the “Farm” or Horticulture area. Park in the area of the livestock barns/greenhouses/horticulture building. We will be in the picnic area between the greenhouses and growing grounds. Come see where we do propagation and raise the plants for our annual plant sales.</td>
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<td>June 19</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip.</strong> Member <strong>David Ledger</strong> will lead a fieldtrip in Lassen National Park, along Hat Creek to Paradise Meadows and Terrace Lake. This will be a strenuous 5- to 6-mile hike at elevations of 6,400 to 7,600 feet. The hike will be through lodgepole, red fir and mountain hemlock forests, with beautiful wildflowers expected at Paradise Meadows and Terrace Lake. Bring hiking footwear, lunch and plenty of water. Meet in Redding at 8 AM at the back side of City Hall (Parkview Avenue side), 777 Cypress Avenue. Call David Ledger at 355-9442 for details.</td>
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<td>June 20</td>
<td><strong>Plant Clean-up Session.</strong> 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, near the livestock barns. We will be weeding, spiffing up, and transplanting. Bring clippers and any other tools you might need. Please call <strong>Susan Libonati</strong> at 347-4654 for further information.</td>
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<td>July 24</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip in the Trinity Alps.</strong> <strong>Susan Erwin</strong> and <strong>Shauna Hee,</strong> botanists with Shasta-Trinity National Forest, will lead us on a fieldtrip to the beautiful Parker Meadows/Fosters cabin in the Trinity Alps Wilderness. This will be a moderately strenuous fieldtrip of up to 9 miles roundtrip, at the 5,000- to 6,000-foot elevation. Be prepared for an all-day hike. There will be open meadows with lots of wildflowers and an old historic cabin. Bring lunch, water, sun protection, and sturdy boots. Meet in Redding at 7:30 AM at the back side of City Hall (Parkview Avenue side), 777 Cypress Avenue, or meet at the Rush Creek Visitor Center (kiosk) at the intersection of State Highway 3 and Rush Creek Road in Trinity County at 9 AM. Call Susan Erwin at 778-9884 for more information.</td>
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**No meetings in July or August. See you on a summer fieldtrip!**
17th Annual Mother’s Day
Wildflower Show
Siskiyou County

Sponsored by:
the Klamath National Forest • the Shasta-Trinity National Forest
the Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

Sunday, May 9th, 2010 • 10am to 4pm at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds in Yreka, California
Hundreds of native plants on display • Books • Posters • Wildflower art

For more information call: Marla Knight at 530.468.1238

Lemon fawn lily & Buckeye peacock. Photography and Design by Ken DeCamp: kendecampphotography.com