President’s Message

Dear Members,

I have become aware that our chapter has two super volunteers—Jay & Terri Thesken. I asked them to summarize their contributions to the success of the Shasta Chapter of CNPS:

They have been chapter members for 20 years. Jay and Terri have served jointly as program chairs (contacting and making arrangements for chapter meeting presenters) and fieldtrip chairs for 18 years (since 1992). Jay has served as scholarship chair for 15 years (since 1995) and was the invasive/exotic plant chair for two years. He was also chapter president for two years (early 1990s). Terri is our current chapter treasurer. Both serve on the election committee annually.

Their joint volunteer hours include plant sale preparation: propagation (at Shasta College and at home), weeding, plant inventory, plant sales, poster distribution and order pickup from Cornflower Nursery (a Sacramento native plant nursery). Their Firecracker (Shasta Chapter CNPS newsletter) contributions include articles and photographs, and they help to coordinate other newsletter contributors. They maintain a Shasta Chapter CNPS scrapbook with photos and write-ups of our events. They have represented our chapter at the Yreka Mother’s Day Wildflower Show (2005-2010), the Festa Botanica (Turtle Bay Arboretum’s annual plant sale), and occasionally at state CNPS quarterly Chapter Council meetings (a governance body of representatives from all 33 CNPS chapters). They write the chapter’s annual report to the state CNPS. Along with checking our post office box regularly and attending Shasta Chapter Board of Directors meetings, they lead fieldtrips nearly every month. They have been instrumental in the success of our Garden Tours and they organize and sometimes host the chapter’s annual picnic meeting in June.

Jay and Terri have been tremendously helpful to me in this first year as chapter president. The next time you see Jay or Terri, please thank them for their commitment to the success of our chapter. Thank you Jay and Terri! ✪

-Ken Kilborn,
Shasta Chapter CNPS President

Come on Back!

Some of our long-time, faithful CNPS members have been missing from our Chapter meetings since we moved to the new Shasta College building at the north end of the downtown mall. Please note that the meeting time is a much more manageable 7 PM, and parking in the downtown mall is a breeze (and free!), so we’re hoping to see you at the meetings in 2011. It’s easy to enter the Shasta College building on its south side, then hop up the stairs (or use the elevator) to the second floor, room 8220. We have a great line-up of speakers for the coming year, so we hope to see you there! ✪

And Bring Your Ballot!

It’s election time once again! Your Shasta Chapter 2011 officers ballot is enclosed. Please mail it in by January 17. Or better yet, bring it to the January 20 meeting where we will tally the votes and announce the results. (Ballots will also be available at the meeting if you forget yours!) ✪
Fieldtrip Follow-Ups

Failed Colors

Our November 20 Fall Colors fieldtrip turned out very gray—it was rained out! *

Mushroom Madness

On December 5, Susan Libonati’s and Ken Kilborn’s mushroom outing also met with gray skies and rain, so Susan escorted fieldtrip participants to Shasta College for an informative (and dry!) look at mushrooms that she had recently collected. *

-Terri Thesken

Native Plant Garden Tours

Our third Shasta Chapter native plant garden tour last May was a very successful event for our society, as were our past two garden tours (2007 and 2008). I think we’ve all come to recognize over the past several years that there is a strong interest in our community for native plant gardening. The garden tours, and especially the native plant sales, have all been well patronized by the public, and we as members of the society should be well pleased (and greatly congratulated!) for all we have done to achieve this level of interest.

That said, I want to let our members know that there are plans to have our next tour in May 2012. Since time passes by so fast these days, I want to get going on finding the next batch of five gardens to have on the next tour. So please start thinking about having your own garden on the next garden tour, or recommending someone else’s garden to be on it. My phone number and e-mail address are below for you to contact me with any thoughts or questions about the next tour. I will gladly explain all the specifics that are necessary to make your garden eligible for the tour and, by the way, you will have almost a year and a half to get ready. Plenty of time. Thank you! ✰

-Donal Jonio

Garden Tours Grant Committee Chair
221-4280; dfjorca@charter.net

A Good Resource

A digital version of Trinity River Plant Materials Guide by Matthews, Furniss, and Leskiw, 1990, is available on the internet. Some of it is out of date, such as the nursery sources, but most is still good and useful: http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/ja/furniss.pdf Or, for a shorter URL: http://goo.gl/fki0p ✰

-Julie Nelson

CalFlora Donation

In December, the Shasta Chapter of CNPS made a $300 donation to CalFlora, a non-profit organization in Berkeley that maintains a fantastic website for plant identification and plant communities throughout California. (Roy West of CalFlora was our speaker for the November 2010 chapter meeting.) Many of our chapter members use this invaluable resource in organizing fieldtrips and in researching or recording important plant occurrences or populations in this area.

Check out their website at www.calflora.org, and if you use this wonderful resource, you might consider sending in a donation of your own. CalFlora operates on nothing but donations, so every dollar makes a significant impact! ✰

-Terri Thesken
December CNPS Chapter Council Meeting

Four times each year, the CNPS Chapter Council, made up of delegates from the 33 CNPS chapters, meets to direct policy and other governing matters of the organization. The weekend meetings are held in various locations throughout the state, and individual chapters host the meetings and offer wonderful fieldtrips. The December meeting is typically held in the Bay Area and includes an annual banquet and speaker. This year, the December meeting was held on the weekend of the 11th and 12th at San Francisco State University, and was attended by Jay & Terri Thesken, representing the Shasta Chapter. The following is a summary of the important points of the meeting:

- The state office of CNPS has outgrown its building in Sacramento and may be moving to a new location in 2011.
- “Native Plant Week” has been established by State Assembly Resolution and will fall annually in the third week of April. This year’s dates are April 17-23. The website for festivities is: www.cnpweek.org
- Greg Suba, Conservation Director for CNPS (our September 2010 speaker), is about to hire an intern, which will help in getting CNPS chapters more involved in conservation issues at the local, state and federal levels. He also announced that the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan website is www.DRECP.org
- A new statewide logo for CNPS has still not been agreed upon. A new process has been initiated that will take about 9 months and will involve submittal of designs, review by the chapters, and the unveiling of the winning selection at the 2012 Conservation Conference.
- There will be a change in CNPS membership benefits in October 2011, at which time the Fremontia will be reduced to 3 issues per year, rather than 4.
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) has historically used the “CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants” for determining California’s sensitive plant status. The CDFG has recently re-named this list the “California Rare Plant Ranking.” There was discussion as to whether CNPS should retain their list name or change to the new CDFG list name.
- The horticulture quarterly e-newsletter needs article contributions. A paid CNPS Horticultural Director position is being developed. The job description and application process was discussed.

On Sunday, we had a great fieldtrip to the California Academy of Sciences Museum, in Golden Gate Park, to see the “living roof,” a 2.5-acre planted rooftop on the museum incorporating over 80 species of California native plants. In addition, the Senior Curator of Botany, Frank Almeda, took us for a surprise look at the herbarium at the Academy, which contains one of the largest specimen collections of vascular plants in North America!  

-Terri Thesken

Dr. Frank Almeda, Senior Botany Curator with the California Academy of Sciences Museum, and CNPS members at the December Chapter Council meeting’s fieldtrip in San Francisco.

The “living roof” of the California Academy of Sciences Museum building, San Francisco, during the CNPS December Chapter Council meeting fieldtrip. The “portholes” are vents and skylights for the museum’s rainforest exhibit.

CNPS December Chapter Council meeting attendees on the “living roof” of the California Academy of Sciences Museum, San Francisco.
4th Annual NCB Symposium

The Northern California Botanists is hosting its fourth annual botanical symposium, entitled *Northern California Plant Life: Wonder, Discovery, Concern*, on January 10 & 11. It will be held in the Bell Memorial Union on the campus of California State University, Chico. Botanical workshops will be held on Wednesday, January 12. Presentations by working botanists from around the North State will provide updates and perspectives on fire ecology, lichens, reproductive ecology, Jepson Manual changes, new discoveries, rare plant management, and climate change—all emphasizing the northern part of California. The keynote speaker, Dr. Bob Patterson, of the San Francisco State University, will present *A Tale of Two Trees: The History (Natural and Otherwise) of the Phlox Family*. For further information on this symposium, please visit www.norcalbotanists.org/symposia/symposium2011.htm.

California Invasive Plant Council Project

From 2006 to 2008, the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) mapped the existing distribution of all species in the Cal-IPC Inventory by county and Jepson floristic region. In 2010, we began mapping at a finer resolution (7.5 minute USGS quadrangles).

The keystone of this effort is to gather a group of local botanists and land managers and map their expert knowledge. We’re seeking input from CNPS volunteers with strong botanical skills and regional knowledge of invasive plant distribution.

Come participate in our data gathering meetings! They have been informative and collaborative, with palpable excitement about the final mapping products. The outcomes of this project will enable users to answer questions such as: What’s here? What’s on the move? What’s on the way? What’s ripe for eradication? What’s ripe for containment?

To participate, please or e-mail mapping@cal-ipc.org Visit www.calweedmapper.org for more information.

A Warm Welcome to New Chapter Members!

Jessica Pijoan, Susanville
Kay Wilson, Redding

Shasta Chapter CNPS Directory

**ADDRESS:** PO Box 990194, Redding, CA 96099-0194
**WEBSITE:** 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)

**FIELDTRIP CHAIRS** – Jay & Terri Thesken (221-0906)
**GRANTS COMMITTEE CHAIR** – Donal Jonio (221-4280)
**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)
Events of Others

January 8, Saturday.  Native Lands Restoration Planting Day.  Sacramento River Bend Area.  8 AM to 3 PM.  BLM.  Sara Copp: 224-2188; Sara_copp@blm.gov

January 8, Saturday.  Second Saturday Bird Walk.  8 AM.  Meet in the parking lot behind the monolith at Turtle Bay.  Wintu Audubon Society.  Bill Oliver: 941-7741.


January 15, Saturday.  Native Lands Restoration Planting Day.  Clear Creek Greenway.  8 AM to 3 PM.  BLM.  Sara Copp: 224-2188; Sara_copp@blm.gov

January 15, Saturday.  Talk: The Joy of Indoor Gardening, by Lisa Endicott.  10 AM to noon.  $3; free to members.  McConnell Arboretum & Botanical Gardens.  242-3178.


February 4, Friday.  Presentation: Northern California Mushroom Identification, by Susan Libonati.  1:30 PM.  Meet at the parking lot (orange pipe gate) on Clear Creek Road, about seven miles west of Highway 273.  Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve.  224-2100.

February 6, Sunday.  Guided Conservatory Tour at UC Davis.  8:30 AM.  Meet at Chico Park & Ride’s west parking lot (Hwys 99 & 32).  $4; must RSVP.  Mount Lassen CNPS.  Gerry Ingo: 893-5123.

February 8, Tuesday.  Fieldtrip to the Llano Seco Unit, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, and Chico Wastewater Treatment Plant.  7:30 AM.  Meet at the Redding Convention Center to carpool.  Wintu Audubon Society.  Bill Oliver: 941-7741.

February 12, Saturday.  Second Saturday Bird Walk.  8 AM.  Meet in the parking lot behind the monolith at Turtle Bay.  Wintu Audubon Society.  Bill Oliver: 941-7741.


February 26, Saturday.  Fieldtrip to the Llano Seco Unit, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, and Chico Wastewater Treatment Plant.  7:30 AM.  Meet at the Redding Convention Center to carpool.  Wintu Audubon Society.  Bill Oliver: 941-7741.

Chico Herbarium Workshops

The following winter 2011 workshops are being offered by CSU, Chico, Friends of the Herbarium. They all fall on Saturdays and will be conducted on the CSU, Chico, campus. For details about these workshops and registration information, please go to www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html

January 15.  Care of Trees in the Landscape.  Denice Britton.


March 26.  Introduction to Lichen Identification.  Tom Carlberg.

Jepson Herbarium Weekend Workshops

The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium is offering the following winter 2011 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.


March 3-6.  Lichens and Soil Crusts of the Eastern Mojave.  Larry St. Clair.  (Location: Desert Studies Center, Mojave National Preserve.)


CNPS Workshops and Professional Training

The following are the winter 2011 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 jcrawford@cnps.org or 916/447-2677 ext. 205 for further information.

January 31-February 2.  Vegetation Mapping Workshop.  (Location: University of Redlands and field sites in western Riverside County.)  Dr. Todd Keeler-Wolf, John Menke, and Julie Evens.

February 15.  Rare Plants of the Central Valley.  (Location: UC Davis.)  Carol Witham.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting</td>
<td>Welcome back for the first meeting of the New Year! Join us for a program by CNPS member and long-distance backpacker Doug Mandel. Doug will take us on a photo journey of his 800-mile, 2-month backpack trip along the proposed Pacific Northwest Trail, from Glacier National Park to the westernmost point of the contiguous United States, Cape Alava, Washington. Also, as a Master Gardener and a Turtle Bay Arboretum Council member, Doug will tell us about his Shasta Horticulture Resource Bulletin website (<a href="http://shrb.blogspot.com/">http://shrb.blogspot.com/</a>), which he developed to get the word out about native plants, local horticulture and sustainability. Meet at our new time and location: 7 PM at the Shasta College Health Science &amp; 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. Note: come prepared to vote for the 2011 slate of officers for the Shasta Chapter! (See enclosed ballot.)</td>
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<td>January 26</td>
<td>Plant Propagation Session</td>
<td>Let’s get going for the 2011 Plant Sale! Two-hour work session starting at 2 PM at the Shasta College greenhouses. The greenhouses are located near the back of Shasta College, near the livestock barns. We will be potting up any new materials you may bring! Bring native plant rooted divisions, seedlings, cuttings, clippers and any other tools you might need. Please call Susan Libonati at 347-4654 for further information.</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>Fieldtrip</td>
<td>Get to know the native plants and habitats in Redding’s own backyard with an easy 4-mile walk on the Mary Lake/Westside Trail complex through the hills west of Redding, and see great views of the lake and surrounding mountains. This easy walk with a 400-foot elevation gain will be an introduction to plants of foothill woodlands and chaparral. Meet at 9 AM at Mary Lake Park in west Redding, on Lakeside Drive at Mary Lake Drive. Bring water and umbrella if needed. Heavy rain (or snow!) cancels. For more information, call David Ledger at 355-8542 or 243-8076.</td>
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<td>February 5</td>
<td>Fieldtrip</td>
<td>David Ledger will lead a fieldtrip to the Mule Mountain Pass Trail in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. This walk starts at Salt Creek and proceeds up the north face of Mule Mountain to the BLM trails of Swasey Recreation Area. It starts in blue oak-gray pine woodland, passes through mixed conifer woodland, and over to chaparral at the BLM area. This will be a moderate 4-mile roundtrip hike. Bring lunch, water and adequate footwear. Meet in Redding at 9 AM at the south side of City Hall (Parkview Avenue side), 777 Cypress Avenue. Heavy rain or snow cancels. For more information, call David Ledger at 355-8542 or 243-8076.</td>
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<td>February 17</td>
<td>Chapter Meeting</td>
<td>Join us for a presentation by Baldo Villegas, Senior Environmental Research Scientist with the California Department of Food &amp; Agriculture in Sacramento. Baldo will discuss biological control of invasive plants, especially those in northern California. He will also discuss the efforts that are made to make certain that biological controls do not host on our native California plants. Meet at our new time and location: 7 PM at the Shasta College Health Science &amp; 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>February 19</td>
<td>Fieldtrip</td>
<td>Join Jay &amp; Terri Thesken for a 3- to 4-mile hike on the Cloverdale Loop trails of the BLM Clear Creek Greenway area, in the foothills southwest of Redding. We will be walking through blue oak-gray pine woodland, at about 850-foot elevation, on mostly level trails. We may even see some very early bloomers such as manzanita, pipeline, Indian warrior, shooting stars or western hound’s tongue. Bring lunch, water and adequate hiking footwear. Meet in Redding at 9 AM at the south side of City Hall (Parkview Avenue side), 777 Cypress Avenue. Heavy rain or snow cancels. Call Jay or Terri at 221-0906 for further information.</td>
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<td>February 23</td>
<td>Plant Propagation Session</td>
<td>Two-hour work session starting at 2 PM at the Shasta College greenhouses. The greenhouses are located near the back of Shasta College, near the livestock barns. We will be potting up any new materials. Bring native plant rooted divisions, seedlings, cuttings, clippers and any other tools you might need. Please call Susan Libonati at 347-4654 for further information.</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
<td>Fieldtrip</td>
<td>Join David Ledger for a fieldtrip to South Fork Mountain Road in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. This will be a gentle uphill climb with about a 1,000-foot elevation change over a 6-mile roundtrip distance. Elevation is around 1,500 feet. We will walk along a dirt road (closed to vehicles), overlooking Whiskeytown Lake and Shasta Bally. We expect to see a variety of plants, including knobcone pine, sugar pine, showy phlox and Applegate’s paintbrush. We will observe how this chaparral and oak-conifer woodland area is recovering from the 2008 fires. Bring lunch, water and adequate hiking footwear. Meet in Redding at 9 AM at the south side of City Hall (Parkview Avenue side), 777 Cypress Avenue. Heavy rain or snow cancels. Call David at 355-8542 or 243-8076 for details.</td>
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Contact Ken at 221-2399