PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The early signs of spring are all around us: trees flowering, warm sunny afternoons. Come join us in some of our chapter’s fun outdoor activities: plant propagating sessions, plant walks, enjoyable and educational speakers at our monthly meeting. These activities are all listed in the calendar at the end of this newsletter, and on our webpage at www.shastacnps.org. Send this URL to friends who might enjoy these activities.

This month I want to highlight the work of David Ledger, our chapter’s fieldtrip chair. He has a series of unique fieldtrips arranged this spring. Of special note are the trips to Phillips Brothers Mill in Oak Run, and to the Dye Creek Preserve near Los Molinos. An extensive flora of Dye Creek Preserve is on our website under Local Plant Lists.

David has also spearheaded the formation of a community group, Friends of Oregon Gulch, whose goal is to have the City of Redding designate this 385 acres as a greenbelt open to hiking and biking. Shasta Chapter CNPS strongly supports this action.

As spring wildflowers start to bloom, keep your eye out for new plants to identify. If you are having trouble with their identification, take a photo with your smart phone or digital camera and send me an email at: ken.kilborn@gmail.com. If I cannot identify it, I will forward it to one of our professional botanist members and get back. Once you learn this new flower, share your knowledge with someone. If it excites you to learn more about identifying plants, make a reservation with David Ledger to attend one of his spring wildflower identification sessions.

KEN KILBORN
President, Shasta Chapter CNPS

SPRING PLANT SALE

We will be selling California native plants at the Shasta College Spring Plant Sale on Thursday–Saturday, April 16–18 (8 AM–5 PM on Thursday and Friday, and 9 AM–4 PM on Saturday). We need lots of members to help out with shifts at this event. Typically, this involves setting up on Wednesday, April 15 (2–4 PM), or staffing the book table, selling plants or books, giving advice, moving plants, or just being friendly during the sale. You do not have to be a plant expert to participate! If you can spare a few hours on any of these days, please contact Jay & Terri Thesken at 530/221-0906 or theksen@snowcrest.net to sign up. We will also have the sign-up sheets at upcoming chapter meetings and propagation sessions.

TERRI THESKEN
Plant Propagation Manager

NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR 2015

Just a quick reminder that our next native plant garden tour is set for Saturday, May 2, from 10 AM to 4 PM. Ticket details will be sent via a special mailing in April. Five gardens have been established and I will need from 12–15 volunteers to either be greeters at a garden or to assist in the plant sale at one garden. The gardens are somewhat spread out throughout the Redding area so I will try to place you at a garden that requires less travel. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering. Thank you.

DONAL JONIO
Garden Tour Chair
221-4280; dfjorca@charter.net
**PROPAGATION UPDATE**

We had two propagation sessions to start out the 2015 New Year in January—both of which were well attended by enthusiastic propagators (12 to 15 folks each time!). The second session in January was even held in the rain, and we kept somewhat dry by doing our work in a greenhouse… until it came time to move cartloads of plants outside. Another session in February got our inventory up to over 1,600 plants for our April 16–18 Spring Plant Sale at Shasta College.

After our two very successful spring and fall plant sales in 2014, we only had 395 plants left in our inventory by late October 2014. We greatly appreciate all of the time and effort put out by our trusty volunteer propagators and suppliers throughout the year—rain or shine! In order to get our plant inventory up to the usual 2,000 plants for the Spring Plant Sale, we will hold two propagation sessions in March: Sunday, March 22, at 10 AM; and Sunday, March 29, at 10 AM (see Calendar, page 10). So, if you missed out on the winter propagation dates, feel free to join us in the flurry of activity in preparation for the Big Sale!

With the great amount of propagation we have done this year and last, we are constantly in need of those black, 1-gallon plant pots. If you have any you want to get rid of, feel free to bring them to the growing grounds at Shasta College on one of our propagation dates, or drop them off at the potting table at the college farm/horticulture area, anytime.

-Terri Thesken, Plant Propagation Manager

**MOTHER’S DAY WILDFLOWER SHOW**

The 22nd Annual Siskiyou County Wildflower Show on Mother’s Day Sunday, May 10, is bound to be another record showing due to distinct lack of snow at the higher elevations! Held in the Flower building at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds in Yreka, (coming from the south, take the first Yreka exit on I-5, bear right to the stop sign, then left to the Fairgrounds entrance), you can expect displays of live trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, weeds, mosses, and lichens. The partnership between the Klamath and Shasta-Trinity national forests, and the Shasta Chapter CNPS, has developed over the years to provide an educational opportunity for the community at which we provide information on native plant gardening and a variety of other topics. **Marla Knight**, Forest Botanist for the Klamath National Forest, heads up the event and has a cadre of dedicated botanists and volunteers who assist in putting the show together.

For the third year in a row, we will have a wildflower photography contest. Entries will be judged by public vote at the show, and there will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. Winning photos will be posted on the Klamath National Forest website. Contact **Danika Carlson** at 530/468-1225 or dcarlson02@fs.fed.us for more information on the contest.

There will be t-shirts, books, posters, plants, and other CNPS items for sale at the event. For more information, contact me at 530/841-4425.

-Marla Knight, Botanist, Klamath National Forest

**MATSON MOWDER HOWE CELEBRATION GARDEN WORKDAY**

Thanks to the helpful hands of 14 volunteers, our most recent Matson Mowder Howe Celebration Garden workday on Sunday, January 25, was a success. In just over two hours, we generated a mountain of sycamore leaves and prepped the garden for spring. To further increase the educational value of the garden to our community, the Shasta Chapter CNPS has generously donated, and will soon be installing, new identification signs for many of the garden’s California natives.

Mark your calendar: our next workday will be held Sunday, April 19. (See Calendar, page 10.) Hope to see you there!

-Mindy Graves
WAYSIDE WILDFLOWERS: EARLY-BIRD BUTTERCUP

We took advantage of a very dry January to inspect a proposed BLM juniper removal project in the eastern Surprise Valley area along Bull Creek on the California-Nevada border. To our surprise, we came across several sagebrush buttercups, *Ranunculus glaberrimus* var. *glaberrimus*, in bloom. Usually we don’t see these little buttercups until March when the snow starts to melt. They were on a south-facing slope among some very old western juniper and mixed sagebrush at about 5,700 feet elevation. For some reason, Calflora has only one image of these guys and it is from Washington. ☮️

-Paul Davis

Paul Davis and his wife, Marilyn, are some of our most far-eastern Shasta Chapter members, residing in Modoc County.

Do you have a photo and short description of something that you stumbled upon in your ramblings through the woods? Send it to me at laurielburk@gmail.com and we’ll consider sharing it with the membership! It doesn’t have to be a plant, but it should be of the natural world. -Laurie Burk, editor

Ranunculus glaberrimus var. glaberrimus, or sagebrush buttercup, found blooming very early in eastern Modoc County. Photo by Paul Davis.

SHASTA CHAPTER DONATES BOOKS

The Shasta Chapter CNPS donated 23 books on native plants to the Redding Public Library (Shasta County Library, Redding branch) in December and January. The books cover three general categories: native plant identification guides, native plant gardening, and general books on native plant ecology.

Among the books on native plant identification are: *Flowers and Trees of the Trinity Alps* by Alice Jones; *Trees and Shrubs of California* by John Stuart and John Sawyer; *Field Guide to Grasses of California* by James P. Smith Jr.; *Weeds of the West* by Tom Whitson, Larry C. Burrill, and Steven A. Dewey; *A Field Guide to Western Trees* by George Petrides; *Conifers of the Pacific Slope* by Michael Kauffmann; *A Field Guide to Pacific States Wildflowers* by Theodore F. Niehaus; *Wildflowers of the Sierra Nevada and Central Valley* by Laird R. Blackwell; and *Introduction to California Spring Wildflowers of the Foothills, Valleys, and Coast* by Philip Munz.

Native plant gardening books include *California Native Plants for the Garden* by Carol Bornstein, David Fross, and Bart O’Brien; *Designing California Native Plant Gardens* by Glenn Keator and Alrie Middleton; *Native Treasures: Gardening with the Plants of California* by M. Nevin Smith; *The Conscientious Gardner: Cultivating a Garden Ethic* by Sarah Reichard and Peter H. Raven; *California Native Gardening: A Month-by-Month Guide* by Helen Popper; *Reimagining the California Lawn: Water-Conserving Plants, Practices, and Designs* by Carol Bornstein, David Fross, and Bart O’Brien; and *The California Wildlife Habitat Garden* by Nancy Bauer.

Books related to the ecology of native California plants include: *Introduction to California Plant Life* by Robert Ornduff; *Introduction to California Chaparral* by Ronald D. Quinn, Sterling Keely, and Marianne D. Wallace; *Oaks of California* by Bruce M. Pavlik, Pamela Muick, and Sharon Johnson; and *Conifer Country* by Michael Kauffmann.

Each book has a label on the front inside cover indicating that it was donated by the Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. Books are on the general shelves, available for checkout for three weeks. A copy of *The Jepson Manual* is available on reserve for use in the library. You can check availability for checkout by going to the library’s online site at www.shastalibraries.org ☮️

-David Ledger

The maintenance crew and their mountain of sycamore leaves at the Matson Mowder Howe Celebration Garden workday on Sunday, January 25. Photo by Mindy Graves.
The CNPS 2015 Conservation Conference celebrating 50 years of progress and promise took place January 13–17 in San Jose, California. The Welcome and Plenary Address by Conservation Biologist Michael Soulé concentrated on the “socially radical” notion of protecting the top predators. He wrote in my copy of his latest book, “Fight, Fight, Fight.” The conference ended with a series of “Progress and Promise Talks,” highlighted by Paul R. Ehrlich (co-founder of the coevolution field), Kim Stanley Robinson (acclaimed science fiction writer and ecologist), and Peter Raven (leading advocate of conservation and biodiversity, Missouri Botanical Garden President Emeritus). Much was discussed, especially human population growth curves, increasingly unsustainable consumption, zero-growth economics, and post-capitalist society, not to mention the science-fiction terraforming to replace our ravaged planet.

There was a lot packed into two days of workshops and fieldtrips and three days of talks, presentations, art and photo contests, exhibits, posters, poetry readings, banquet, songfest and music jam... The first day, I attended the workshop “Garden Allies: Conservation Biological Control for Farm and Garden,” and I finally learned the identity of a bug ubiquitous around Redding. It is a dull grey bug, about 13 mm in length, with an orange edge to the body. They are largid bugs, Largus succinctus, in the family Largidae. The nymphs of these Hemiptera bugs are metallic blue-black with the older nymphs having a bright red spot in the middle of the back. They are also known as bordered plant bugs. Even though the vast majority of arthropods are “beneficial” to the garden, the largid bug’s value to the garden “is not much,” per workshop instructor Frederique Lavoipierre (Santa Barbara Botanical Garden). Other tidbits of information: Look at families of plants instead of individual plants with respect to providing good habitat. The families emphasized were Polygonaceae (buckwheat) and Poaceae—specifically, California native bunchgrasses.

My next workshop explained the developing CNPS Certification Program for Native California Landscape Professionals. Good intentions, a lot of work (some already done by other organizations), not coming to far northern California anytime soon.

Then, off to Acterra Nursery in Los Altos Hills for an enlightening afternoon workshop on “California Native Plant Propagation for Restoration.” A contentious topic throughout the conference was the contamination of native and non-native nursery stock with the root-rotting Phytophthora spp., specifically P. cinnamomii and P. tentaculata on the heels of P. ramorum (of Sudden Oak Death fame). The fear is further introduction of these pathogens into the wild, especially via restoration projects and home landscapes in the wildland-urban interface. An example was given of a restoration project gone bad north of Buena Vista, California. Treatment of the P. cinnamomii-infected soil is difficult, but there is some current promising research with the foliar application of the systemic biopesticide potassium phosphite. The consensus was that routine phytosanitary practices during propagation would help minimize introducing plant pathogens as well as exotic weeds and pests. On a happier subject related to propagation ideas, research from Gordon Frankie’s Urban Bee Lab in Berkeley showed Phacelia to be the best native plant for attracting bees (60 bee species counted). Rosemary was the best of the non-natives tested.

One of the most intriguing presentations for me was about “Found Landscapes.” Since native plants often already exist on undisturbed residential properties, a beautiful landscape design can be uncovered with minimal effort. “Native plant gardening should emulate nature” was mentioned throughout the horticultural presentations. Right; why destroy and replace an existing desirable habitat landscape? There is no need to bulldoze, amend soil, dig holes, plant, irrigate, fertilize, and so on; a win-win situation.

The degradation of habitat leads to the discussion about the plight of the monarch butterflies. “To offset the loss and degradation of monarch breeding habitat, conservationists recommend planting regionally appropriate native milkweed species.” A national grant helped forge a partnership between the Xerces Society and Hedgerow Farms, Inc., to produce previously scarce California native milkweed seed.

The San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan, the first such plan in the US (1982), has not met most of its initial goals. However, the large area of 3,537 acres (2,326 acres of Conserved Habitat) in the middle of the San Francisco Peninsula was saved from the developers. “Conservation is the art of delay.” I am not sure whom to credit for this great quote.

During lunch on the first day of the main conference, I enjoyed a spontaneous fieldtrip to Ulistac Natural Area—a native California habitat restoration project on 40 acres in the middle of Silicon Valley (Santa Clara). The contagious enthusiasm of Dennis Dowling, a retired high school science teacher and ardent environmentalist, warrants a stroll through this grassroots, all-volunteer oasis. If you are in the area, drop by and Dennis will regale you with history, science, and wisdom.

There was much more but, to quote Sophie Scholl, “...such a fine, sunny day, and I have to go...”.
**NEW YEAR’S DAY WESTSIDE TRAIL FIELDTIP**

Clear skies and cool temperatures brought 16 plant enthusiasts to this fun fieldtrip. Starting out on the Mary Lake Trail, we soon spotted two interior live oaks lying on the ground, recently cut and fallen by a new beaver family living nearby on the lake. We continued on through a neighborhood and up the hill. We identified gold-backed fern and bird’s-foot fern, and the common chaparral shrubs including coyotebrush, common and white-leaved manzanitas, yerba santa, buckbrush, Lemmon’s ceanothus, coffebeerry, and toyon. Five people were fairly new to the area, so this was a good experience for them to learn the basic chaparral and oak woodland plants. At the top of the 1,350-foot peak, Yojiru Sadohara, a frequent fieldtrip participant, surprised us with a cold bottle of wine and small paper cups for a toast to the New Year. A juvenile bald eagle soared above us as we took in the view of Mt. Shasta, Mt. Lassen, and the Trinity Alps. ⬆️

-David Ledger

**WINTU LOOP TRAIL TREK, JANUARY 24**

Cool weather and clear skies brought 12 people out for the Wintu Trail fieldtrip in the BLM’s Swasey Recreation Area west of Redding on January 24. Common manzanita (*Arctostaphylos manzanita*) and white-leaved manzanita (*A. viscida*) were in bloom, providing a good comparison of the two different species including the sticky inflorescence of *A. viscida*. This four-mile trail also provides a good comparison of ponderosa pine, knobcone pine, and gray pine, with trees of each of various ages and in close proximity. With little else flowering other than coyotebrush and Henderson’s shootingstar, keying several trees using the field guide *Trees and Shrubs of California* was demonstrated as a group effort. Most of the trail was on a south-facing slope; however, the top of the trail along a ridge is on a north-facing slope where the typical chaparral and oak woodland melded into a black oak grove with beautiful views of Mt. Shasta. For anyone wanting to learn chaparral shrubs, this trail provides many including California coffeebeerry, redberry, yerba santa, buckbrush, birchleaf mountain mahogany, western redbud, toyon, and deerbush. This trail provides a good workout, but it’s not so hard that you don’t have a lot of energy left for other adventures later in the day. ⬆️

-David Ledger

**GUARDIAN ROCK TRAIL, FEB 7**

Overcast skies, pouring rain from Shasta to Whiskeytown, and a swollen creek didn’t keep five determined native plant enthusiasts from this fieldtrip. When we parked near NEED Camp at the trailhead to start our hike, the rain had stopped. But when we walked the short distance to Orofino Creek, we found it close to 18 inches deep. Not giving up, we drove to the other end of the trail at Horse Camp. Here we saw the start of a “climax” grove of knobcone pine—all over 30 feet tall, rail thin, and growing close together. This area supports chaparral blending into knobcone pine groves, black oak groves, and near the canyon, canyon live oak. Blooming flowers were Henderson’s shootingstar, Indian-warrior, Oregon grape, and one violet with many emergent leaves. We had great views of an ephemeral waterfall and rushing Clear Creek. This is a great short hike for those venturing out on their own, but the trail is very steep heading down to Guardian Rock. ⬆️

-David Ledger

Left to right: Judy Macy, David Ledger, Paul Boughton, and Bob Madison on the Guardian Rock Trail hike on February 7. Photo by Doug Mandel.
CORRECTION!
In the January-February 2015 issue of The Firecracker, this mushroom was misidentified. It is correctly labeled, below. Thank you to Susan Libonati and David Fritchle for catching and correcting this mistake.

-Laurie Burk, editor

A correctly identified split gill mushroom, Schizophyllum commune. Photo by Susan Gallaugher.

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE
Our annual Shasta Chapter CNPS Scholarship application period is quickly approaching. Student applications will be mailed to all local high schools and community colleges in our area by the first week of April. Applications will also be available at our April 16 meeting and online at shastacnps.org. The application deadline this year is Friday, May 1. Any graduating high school or community college student from Shasta, Siskiyou, Modoc, or Lassen counties who is entering a 4-year university with a life sciences major is eligible to apply. Depending on the number and quality of applications received, and by direction of our Chapter Board of Directors, we will award either one or two scholarships of $2,000 each this year. Recipients of this award are invited to our June meeting to meet and interact with our members.

Funding for our scholarships comes primarily from our plant sales. In the past, members have also made specific donations to the scholarship program to promote our chapter’s educational goals.

If you know of a student who qualifies for this scholarship in 2015, please have the him or her call Jay Thesken at 530/221-0906 for more information.

Jay Thesken, Scholarship Committee Chair

SISKIYOU FIELD INSTITUTE EVENTS
Below are some 2015 classes that focus on botany that are being offered by the Siskiyou Field Institute, based out of Deer Creek Center in Selma, Oregon. For many more classes and further information, please visit their web site at www.thesfi.org, or contact the institute at 541/597-8530.

July 11–12. Master the Graminoids: Grasses, Rushes and Sedges Keying Workshop. Linda Vorobik; $150.
July 31–August 2. Eriogonums of the Siskiyous. Instructors TBD; $225.

NCB RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS
Northern California Botanists is accepting applications for its Botany Research Scholarship Program for the 2015-2016 academic year. For details about the scholarship program and how to apply, please go to www.norcalbotanists.org/scholarships.htm. All application materials are due by midnight, March 31, 2015.

The Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society will again fund an additional scholarship for research relevant to the flora within the boundaries of the Shasta Chapter (Shasta, Lassen, Modoc, and Siskiyou counties) and/or to a student from the Shasta Chapter area. For more information about this special scholarship, visit the Shasta Chapter website and click on the Applications tab. Please indicate in your cover letter and on the application form that you qualify for the Shasta Chapter scholarship.
CNPS Workshops and Professional Training

The following 2015 workshops are being offered by CNPS. Discounted registration fees are available to CNPS members. See http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/ for full descriptions and registration information. Please contact Josie Crawford at jcrawford@cnps.org or 916/447-2677 ext. 205 for further information.


Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve Events

Upcoming events at Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve (HCCP) are as follows:

April 11, Saturday, 9 AM
Natural History Walk
with HCCP Board member, Don Neptune
(Meet at the BLM parking lot on Cloverdale Road.)

April 18, Saturday, 10 AM
Gold Rush History Walk
with HCCP Board member, Cathy Scott

April 26, Sunday, 1 PM
Clear Creek Wildflowers and Wild Plants
with Shasta Chapter CNPS member, David Ledger

May 3, Sunday, 1 PM
Native Plant Identification and Uses
with native Wintu, Ted Dawson

For all events, unless otherwise noted, meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Road, about 7 miles west of Highway 273, just west of the Clear Creek bridge. All events are free. Please call 530/241-2026 for further information.

Jepson Herbarium Workshops

The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium is offering the following 2015 workshops. They require pre-registration and fees, and take place at UC Berkeley unless otherwise noted. Details on the workshops (as well as other wait-listed workshops) can be found at http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/ For further information, contact jepsonworkshops@berkeley.edu or 510/643-7008.

Mar. 7–8. Introduction to Plant Morphology. Seth Kauppinen.

Mar. 12–15. Definitions and Methods for Identifying and Delineating California Wetlands. (Location: Rush Ranch and Bay Area field sites.) Terry Huffman.


Apr. 16–19. Inventorying the Floristic Frontier: A Botanical Expedition into the Eastern Mojave Desert of California. (Location: Granite Mountain Desert Research Center.) Jim Andre and Tasha La Doux.

Apr. 23–26. 50 Families in the Field: Introduction to Keying. Linda Beidleman.


Chico Herbarium Workshops

The following spring 2015 workshops are being offered by CSU Chico Friends of the Herbarium, 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


Apr. 11. Plant Families in the Garden and in the Wild. Linnea Hanson and Emily Meigs Doe.

CA Native Grasslands Association Events

The following 2015 workshops and events are being offered by the California Native Grasslands Association. For details about these events and registration information, please go to cnga.org


April 24. 8th Annual Field Day at Hedgerow Farms. 21905 County Road 88, Winters.


Apr. 14, Tuesday.  Presentation: A Trip to New Zealand, with Jay & Terri Thesken.  7 PM.  United Way meeting room, 2280 Benton Drive, Redding.  Wintu Audubon Society.  530/221-0906.


Apr. 18, Saturday.  Bear Creek Watershed Outing and Bird Survey.  7:30 AM.  Meet at the Redding Convention Center to carpool.  Wintu Audubon Society.  530/941-7741.

Apr. 20, Saturday.  Spring Plant Sale.  9 AM to 3 PM.  West garden entrance greenhouses.  Members-only pre-sale on Friday, April 3, at 5 PM.  McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens.  530/243-8850.

Apr. 25, Saturday.  Whole Earth Watershed Festival.  10 AM to 4 PM.  Redding City Hall.  Peggy Rebol: 530/243-2403.

Apr. 25, Saturday.  Walk with the Horticulture Manager.  10:30 AM.  Fee.  McConnell Arboretum and Botanical Gardens.  530/243-8850.


May 2, Saturday.  Moonbeam Barn Bash.  $50; must RSVP.  Shasta Land Trust.  530/241-7886.

Shasta Chapter CNPS Directory
ADDRESS: PO BOX 990194, REDDING, CA  96099-0194
WEB SITE: www.shastacnps.org
2015 OFFICERS
PRESIDENT – Ken Kilborn (530/221-2339; ken.kilborn@gmail.com)
VICE PRESIDENT – Robin Fallscheer (530/225-2311)
TREASURER – Terri Thesken (530/221-0906)
SECRETARY – Margaret Widdowson (530/223-4732)
CONSERVATION CHAIR – David Ledger (530/355-8542)
FIELD TRIP CHAIR – David Ledger (530/355-8542)
GRANTS COMMITTEE CHAIR – Donal Jonio (530/221-4280)
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR – Susan Gallaugher (530/246-3815)
NATIVE GARDEN TOUR CHAIR – Donal Jonio (530/221-4280)
NEWSLETTER EDITOR – Laurie Birk (530/347-0849)
PLANT PROPAGATION MANAGER – Terri Thesken (530/221-0906)
PROGRAM CHAIR – Robin Fallscheer (530/225-2311)
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR – Jay Thesken (530/221-0906)
WEB MASTER – Ken Kilborn (530/221-2339; ken.kilborn@gmail.com)

Web Contact:
Ken Kilborn (530/221-2339; ken.kilborn@gmail.com)
Margaret Widdowson (530/223-4732)
Susan Gallaugher (530/246-3815)
Laurie Birk (530/347-0849)
David Ledger (530/355-8542)
Donal Jonio (530/221-4280)
Terri Thesken (530/221-0906)
Gerry Ingco (530/893-5123)
Wes Dempsey (530/342-2293)
Wintu Audubon Society:  530/941-7741
Wintu Audubon Society:  530/941-7741

Contact:
Ken Kilborn (530/221-2339; ken.kilborn@gmail.com)
Margaret Widdowson (530/223-4732)
Susan Gallaugher (530/246-3815)
Laurie Birk (530/347-0849)
David Ledger (530/355-8542)
Donal Jonio (530/221-4280)
Terri Thesken (530/221-0906)
Gerry Ingco (530/893-5123)
Wes Dempsey (530/342-2293)
Wintu Audubon Society:  530/941-7741
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip: Clikapudi Trail.</strong> Join <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> for a wildflower walk on the Clikapudi Trail at Lake Shasta in the Jones Valley area. This is a moderate, 7-mile hike at about 1,300-foot elevation, with a total elevation gain of 500 feet. Come prepared for a 4- to 5-hour hike on rocky, varied terrain by bringing adequate hiking boots, water, and lunch. Views of the Pit River arm of Shasta Lake, Clikapudi Bay and Creek, foothill oak woodlands, and, hopefully, hillsides of spring wildflowers should keep us entertained! Come and see how the area has nicely recovered from the October 1999 Jones Valley Fire. Meet at the Mt. Shasta Mall near Chase Bank at 8 AM. No dogs, please. Please call Jay &amp; Terri Thesken at 530/221-0906 for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip: Clear Creek Vista Trail at Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.</strong> This is an easy four-mile walk through riparian, black oak woodland, and chaparral habitats on a trail above Clear Creek. The changing aspect of the trail presents a diversity of plant species. Possible flowers blooming: Shelton’s violet, pipevine, Pacific snakeroot, Pacific hound’s-tongue, spicebush, and snowdrop. Most of the walk is level; however, there is about a 350-foot elevation climb. This walk will emphasize identifying plants by plant family. A plant list will be provided to participants. Meet in the south parking lot behind Redding City Hall on Parkview Avenue at 1 PM. No dogs, please. For more information, call <strong>David Ledger</strong> at 530/355-8542.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td><strong>Chapter Meeting.</strong> <strong>Ted Dawson,</strong> local Native American herbalist, will share his extensive knowledge of traditional medicine with us. It was Ted’s Nor-Rel-Muk Wintu grandmother who introduced him to gifts from the earth. He will have some of his salves, tinctures, and teas available at the meeting. Visit his website at <a href="http://www.mountainwintuherbs.org">www.mountainwintuherbs.org</a> Meet at 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td><strong>Shasta College Spring Plant Sale.</strong> This 3-day, fabulous spring plant sale will be held at the greenhouse/horticulture area of Shasta College. We will be selling our 2,000+ spring-blooming native plants, so please call <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> at 530/221-0906 to volunteer for a few hours to help out. Set-up and weeding on Wednesday, April 15, at 2–4 PM; members’ pre-sale at 4–6 PM. Plant Sale: 8 AM to 5 PM Thursday and Friday; 9 AM to 4 PM Saturday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td><strong>Matson Mowder Howe Celebration Garden Maintenance.</strong> Work session starting at 9 AM at the Matson Mowder Howe Celebration Garden adjacent to the North Valley Art League Carter House Gallery at 48 Quartz Hill Road in Caldwell Park, Redding. We will complete general garden maintenance activities; bring your hand tools, gloves, and drinking water. Rain cancels. For more information, please call <strong>Mindy Graves</strong> at 530/546-9860.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1–3</td>
<td><strong>Overnight Fieldtrip: Ma-le’l Dunes of Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Arcata Community Forest, Arcata Marsh, and the Giant Redwoods of Redwoods National and State Parks.</strong> This fieldtrip will include overnighting in a motel. Those preferring to camp can meet us at a trailhead each morning. The group will leave Redding on Friday afternoon; however, anyone needing to leave early Saturday morning can meet up with us for fieldtrips. This trip will include a short walk in the redwoods of beautiful Arcata Community Forest, and a side trip to Arcata Marsh on Humboldt Bay. We will hike in the Ma-le’l Dunes through a dune forest, rolling dunes, dune walls, and foredunes with highly varied plants in each habitat. A visit to Redwood National and State Parks will include seeing grazing elk, hiking through giant redwood groves, and taking a side trip to Fern Canyon or Trinidad Head. For more information and to reserve a reduced-rate motel room, call <strong>David Ledger</strong> at 530/355-8542.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</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 great, colorful (and fragrant) display, and a special place to take Moms. Free. 10 AM to 4 PM. (See article, page 2.) If you would like to volunteer to help with the exhibit, or sell books and posters, please contact <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> at 530/221-0906.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip: Oregon Gulch Outing.</strong> This fieldtrip will be on 385 acres of City of Redding-owned land in Oregon Gulch in southwest Redding—an undeveloped urban island of native shrubs, trees, wildflowers, and animals. The walk is an easy 3 to 4 miles on undeveloped trails of uneven terrain with several short steep climbs. Wildflowers that should be in bloom include mission bells, bluedicks, hound’s-tongue, buttercups, pussy-ears, lacepod, spokepod, western bittercress, American wintercress, shining pepper-grass, and Indian-warrior. Walk leader <strong>David Ledger</strong> will identify native plants in the area and give participants a free plant list. Due to limited parking, please meet at Redding City Hall’s south parking lot on Parkview Avenue at 9 AM for carpooling. Dogs on leash okay. For more information, call 530/355-8542.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip: Phillips Brothers Mill.</strong> The Phillips Brothers Mill near Whitmore is a steam-driven mill established in 1897 from parts of various lumber mills around the area dating back to 1860. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. They manufacture wood boxes, wood flooring, and custom wood products. They have about 920 acres of sustainably managed forest land that is under an easement of the Pacific Forest Trust. We will take an approximately two-hour tour of the mill and surrounding log ponds and landings, and then a driving tour on some of their forested land. The mill charges $10 per person. Bring your entrance fee, lunch, water, and a camera for wildflowers. For a fascinating video of their steam-driven planing mill and box factory, go to <a href="http://www.phillipsbrothersmill.com">www.phillipsbrothersmill.com</a>. We will meet at the Mt. Shasta Mall parking lot near Chase Bank at 9 AM and carpool to the mill. For more information, call <strong>David Ledger</strong> at 530/355-8542.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td><strong>Chapter Meeting.</strong> <em>The Plant Lover’s Guide to Salvias</em> author, <strong>John Whittlesey</strong>, will give a presentation entitled Gardens as Habitat: How to Design a Garden Using Native Plants to Attract Wildlife into the Garden. He will explain how to convert your property from a water-thirsty lawn to a seasonally interesting habitat garden that attracts pollinators, birds, lizards, and more. Design considerations will be addressed and he will talk about specific native plants that are good for landscaping as well as being attractive to wildlife. John’s book will be available at the meeting. You may also want to look at his website at <a href="http://www.canyoncreeknurserydesign.com">www.canyoncreeknurserydesign.com</a> for more information about his work as a nurseryman, garden designer, and landscape contractor. Meet at 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip: Salt Creek.</strong> Join <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> for a weekday fieldtrip to Salt Creek off Highway 299 West in Redding. This hike will be approximately 3 miles, on uneven and sometimes rocky terrain, and is a loop trail that will follow along Salt Creek (unpaved, with one creek crossing), then along the Lower Middle Creek Trail (paved and uphill), and then back up to the starting point on the unpaved Salt Creek Connector Trail. We will be in foothill oak woodland and expect to see many native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers. Meet at the Salt Creek Trail parking area on Highway 299 at 9 AM. The hike will take approximately 2 hours. No dogs, please. Call <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> at 530/221-0906 for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td><strong>Plant Propagation Session.</strong> Two-hour work session starting at 10 AM at the Shasta College greenhouses. The greenhouses are located at the back of Shasta College, near the livestock barns. We will be potting up rooted cuttings that we started in January and February, and weeding. Please call <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> at 530/221-0906 for further information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td><strong>Fieldtrip: Dye Creek Preserve.</strong> This hike is on the 37,000-acre Dye Creek Preserve in Tehama County just south of Red Bluff in the foothills of the east valley, on property that is a part of The Nature Conservancy’s protected lands. We will hike up the trail in the wide Dye Creek Canyon cut out of basalt rock, with high mesas above the trail, to a large wide natural cave once used by Native Americans for shelter. This is a very unique area with many different wildflowers, trees, and shrubs. The lower part of Dye Creek Preserve is a working cattle ranch, but livestock are kept out of Dye Creek Canyon. Reserve a space for this unforgettable hike as it is limited to 25 people and you must sign a liability waiver for The Nature Conservancy and CNPS, and provide a valid emergency phone number. Meet at the Mt. Shasta Mall parking lot near Chase Bank at 8 AM. For more information, call <strong>David Ledger</strong> at 530/355-8542.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td><strong>Second Plant Propagation Session for March.</strong> Two-hour work session starting at 10 AM at the Shasta College greenhouses. The greenhouses are located at the back of Shasta College, near the livestock barns. We anticipate a lot of weeding and potting-up of rooted cuttings in preparation for the April 16–18 Spring Plant Sale. Please call <strong>Jay &amp; Terri Thesken</strong> at 530/221-0906 for further information.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Calendar continued on page 9.*

**No propagation session on April 19!**

**Instead, join us at the Matson Mowder Howe Celebration Garden for a spring clean-up!**
Native Plant Sale
Shasta College Farm Greenhouses
8 to 5, Thur & Fri, April 16 & 17
9 to 4, Sat, April 18
221-0906; www.shastacnps.org

Shaggy hawkweed (*Hieracium horridum*)
Photo by Wayne Steffes
22nd Annual Mother’s Day Wildflower Show
Siskiyou County

Sponsored by:
Klamath and Shasta-Trinity National Forests
Shasta Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

Sunday, May 10th, 2015 • 10am to 4pm at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds in Yreka, California
Hundreds of native plants on display • Wildflower photo contest • Books • Posters • Wildflower art
For more information call: Marla Knight at 530.841.4425

Showy milkweed and Dogbane being visited by an Anise swallowtail, a Pale swallowtail, a couple of Monarch, two California blues and a Clouded sulphur.