MEMBER PHOTOS . . .

We have a great two-part program to start our first meeting of the year. Gerry Ingco will share some of his Grand Canyon images for a short program and the other half will be member photos ... whatever nice plant-related images you'd like to share. Please select about 12 photos (5-10 minutes) and let Jim Bishop (cjbishop1991@sbcglobal.net) know whether they are conventional slides or digital images. Have a few extra in reserve in case we don't get many contributors, and please be ready to trim down if we get a lot.

... and what people see when visiting the . . .

Gerry Ingco will show a series of photos from his October 2007 Grand Canyon trip from the perspective of park visitors. First he will show what the visitor sees who only have one or two days and then he will show what the visitor sees when one has more time to spend and can venture below the rim of the canyon. He will show views from the eyes of hikers or mule riders progressing up and down the 5000+ vertical feet via the Bright Angle and South Kaibab trails. There will be scenes of absolute beauty that are hidden from viewers above on the rim of the canyon and reveal why the Bright Angle and its sister trail are two of the most hazardous trails for hikers in the National Park System.

Included are a series of specimen photos of plants, animals, geological, and seldom seen archeological features. Californians will recognize many of the Grand Canyon's plants because the Park includes portions of Great Basin, Sonoran and Mojave desert regions which are also common to California.

Gerry has been helping out Mount Lassen Chapter as Field Trip Co-chair and contributing a majority of the photos seen in the Pipevine. He retired to Chico after a 27 years career in the Forest Service in California.

View from Mather Point . Photo by Gerry Ingco.
Field Trips
by Wes Dempsey and Gerry Ingco, Co-chairs

Ron Clark of Greenville at Long Lake in the Lakes Basin Recreation Area, July 23, 2008. Ron and a small group of members made the trip after the scheduled trip for July 12, 2008 was cancelled due to fire activity. Photo by Gerry Ingco.

KINGS CREEK FALLS TRAIL
LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK
September 14
Sunday

The trailhead for the Kings Creek Falls Trail, at 7,300 feet, is located about twelve miles inside the south entrance to the park. The trail follows Kings Creek as it cascades in a continuous series of small falls terminating at Kings Falls proper. Kings Falls, dropping about fifty feet, is charming. The falls are draped in ferns and other green plants which thrive off of the mist generated by the falls. Watch for Mountain Ash with its clumps of brilliant red berries. The hiking distance is about 1 1/2 miles one way. The vertical descent is 700 feet. The level of difficulty is moderate. It must be remembered that the way back is uphill. Meet at Chico Park & Ride (Hwy 99 / Hwy 32) at 8:30 am. Take: Your Golden Age park permit, water, sun protection, lunch, insect repellent, sturdy shoes, and money for ride sharing. Call leaders for alternate meeting places. Leaders: Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123 and Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293.

MAIDU MEDICINE WALK
UPPER BIDWELL PARK
September 28
Sunday

Meet at Horseshoe Lake, Parking Lot E in upper Bidwell Park, at 9:30 am for a short 1 mile walk to see about 30 native California plants that the local Maidu Indians used for medicine, food, and crafts. Included will be: foothill pine for nutritious pine nuts and pitch for bacteria-resistant ointment, lemonade berry for a delicious lemony drink as well as fiber for baskets, soap root for cleansing suds and catching fish, and many others. Ends at noon. Leader: Wes Dempsey, 342-2293.
Executive Board Meeting
August 26, 2008
Tuesday, 7:00 pm
Chico Creek Nature Center
1968 E. 8th Street, Chico

Candidates for LEADERSHIP POSITIONS Sought

CNPS encourages everyone who wishes to make a contribution to CNPS to consider service on the CNPS State Board or Chapter Council. This summer, the Leadership Development Committee is recruiting candidates for the State Board and for officers of the Chapter Council for terms starting in January 2009.

Service on the CNPS State Board or the Chapter Council is an opportunity to put your skills to work in favor of conservation of California's natural environment. The work of these positions is essential to the success of CNPS's programs—conservation, horticulture, plant science—and to the work of the CNPS chapters. Serving a leadership role is an intensely satisfying experience and a source of pride for those who have participated.

The CNPS State Board and Chapter Council leadership positions are open to any member of CNPS.

The following positions are open beginning January, 2009:
- Board President
- Board Vice President
- Board Treasurer
- Five Directors
- One Chapter Council Representative on the Board
- Chapter Council Chair
- Chapter Council Vice Chair
- Chapter Council Secretary

Self-nomination petitions for these positions are due October 1, 2008. The self-nomination petition is posted on the CNPS website (http://www.cnps.org/cnps/events/pdf/2008_election_memo.pdf). Elections will be held in October, 2008.

Please contact members of the Leadership Development Committee if you have additional questions.
Sue Britting, 530-295-8210, britting@earthlink.net
Brian LeNeve, 831-624-8497, leneve@redshift.com
Carol Witham, 916-452-5440, cwitham@ncal.net

Legislative Notes by David Anderson

PROPOSED REGULATIONS WOULD CRIPPLE Endangered Species Act

On August 11, Secretary of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne, announced drastic proposed revisions to the federal regulations implementing the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA).

Under Section 7 of ESA federal agencies must consult with the Secretary to insure that actions taken or authorized by them are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of threatened or endangered species or result in destruction or adverse modification of critical habitats. Under the implementing regulations lead federal agencies must review their actions and authorizations at the earliest possible time to determine whether they "may affect listed species or critical habitats." If that determination is made, formal consultation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required. That procedure brings the scientists of the two Services into the picture to determine whether federal projects and developments would be likely to jeopardize listed species and critical habitats.

The proposed new rules (not yet available) would allow federal agencies (such as U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Transportation, U.S. Forest Service etc.) to determine for themselves whether their projects and developments would be likely to jeopardize listed species or critical habitats. To put it mildly, this procedure would leave it to the fox to guard the henhouse. Lead federal agencies will be biased in favor of finding no likelihood that their projects will jeopardize species or habitats. Further, most of them are not competent to make the determination because they lack the professional scientific staffs of the FWS and NMFS.

The proposed regulations also would bar federal agencies from assessing the emissions from projects that contribute to global warming and their effects on species and habitats. Secretary Kempthorne's justification for this is his highly controversial contention that there is no proven causal connection between greenhouse gas emissions and global warming.

Needless to say the proposed regulations will generate massive opposition, and probably lawsuits, from environmental organizations. There is certainly a serious question whether Section 7 of ESA permits federal agencies to bypass consultation with the Secretary on questions of jeopardy to species and habitats.

The proposed regulations will have to be published and will be open to public comments. You will hear more about this issue.

The Pipevine September 2008
Mount Lassen Chapter
Recognition at the
Bidwell Park and Playground Commission

by Lise Smith-Peters
Volunteer Coordinator, City of Chico Park Division

The California Native Plant Society, Mount Lassen Chapter formally adopted the Yahi Trail in January 2007. Since the beginning of their adoption, members of the CA Native Plant Society have put in over 100 hours of work on their trail. They even were out working today B pulling starthistle along the Yahi!

Their tasks on the Yahi have included trimming back vegetation, including poison oak from the trail, removing Spanish broom, repairing drainage cuts in the trail, cleaning out waterbars and removing trash. On behalf of the City of Chico, many thanks goes to the California Native Plant Society’s continued work to keep the Yahi Trail healthy.

Janna Lathrop accepting recognition for Mount Lassen Chapter’s 100 hours for Yahi Trail maintenance at the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission Meeting.

NATIVE PLANTS WANTED

Hey all you growers of native plants, the native plant sale is in April of 2009 and this is just a little reminder that we would love to have plants from the members at this next sale, it always adds so much in variety. We welcome all members to grow the wild things. Call Deb Fau at 530-514-8578 or email nativespringsnursery@yahoo.com

The Pipevine Advertiser

The Mount Lassen Chapter Board of Directors has decided to include small ads in the newsletter publication. Organizations and business that support the mission of CNPS are invited to participate. Ad rates and sizes are available by contacting the editor Denise Devine at dsrdevine@hotmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

Emily Williams          Chico
Amber Holt             Magalia
Barbara Haskin         Oroville
Larry Shaner           Oroville
Mark & Lee Ann Fowler Parish
Renee Seely            Sacramento
ReINSTATE
Mary Jane Fox          Chico
Sherri Berglund        Willows

For information about becoming a member of MOUNT Lassen CHAPTER
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
contact Membership Chair Phyllis Lindley
530-899-1514, lindley84@att.net

BIDWELL PARK UPDATE

The long awaited Final Environmental Impact Report for the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan Update is now available and can be reviewed on the City of Chico web site (www.ci.chico.ca.us). Printed copies are also available for viewing at the reference desk of the Butte County Library Chico branch, the CSU Chico Library Special Collections and at the Chico Planning Department.

On August 25th (7 pm, City Council Chambers), the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission (BPPC) will decide whether to recommend to the Chico City Council that these documents be approved. The Commission will also vote on whether to legitimize disc golf at its current unofficial Hwy 32 location. According to city staff, the Park Commission will not review or consider the monetary cost of mitigations proposed for the four projects described in the MMP: 1) the Cedar Grove Plan, 2) the Disc Golf/Trailhead Plan, 3) the Horseshoe Lake Plan and 4) the Trail Plan. Unfortunately, without financial analysis, there is no way the Park Commission or the City Council will be able to determine if the numerous mitigations the City is proposing in order to minimize the significant impacts outlined in the Environmental Impact Report are economically feasible or not.

This is a historic point in time for Bidwell Park. The final decisions made by the Bidwell Park and Playground Commission and City Council will affect Bidwell Park for decades to come. Public participation is essential to ensure that future generations will enjoy the majestic beauty of this valuable and irreplaceable public resource. We urge people to attend both the August 25th Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meeting and the City Council meeting which will probably be held sometime later in the fall.

Additional information regarding the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Report can be found on the Friends of Bidwell Park web site at www.Friendsof-BidwellPark.org.
TO SEDGE-LOVING CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS

by Nick Otting, Carex Working Group

The Carex Working Group is pleased to announce the publication of the Field Guide to the Sedges of the Pacific Northwest. The book is an illustrated guide to all 164 species, subspecies, and varieties of Carex that occur in Washington and Oregon. Botanists will find it useful throughout much of California particularly in northern California and in the mountains throughout the state. It contains identification keys, descriptions, color photographs, and distribution maps for each species, along with information about sedge ecology, habitat, and management.

The field guide is available by calling 1-800-426-3797 or it can be ordered by going to http://oregonstate.edu/dept/press/e-f/FieldGuideSedges.html and then clicking on "Secure online ordering form."

Summer Field Trip Photo

Robert Fisher in Wilson Lake on July 20, 2008 seeking the rare Scirpus heterochaetus subterminalis

Photo by Gerry Ingco
Pathfinder

John C. Fremont

by Rex Burress

own by the Feather River Nature Center in Oroville, CA, there is a scrubby plant growing on "Native Plant Hill" that features fuzzy, flannel-like leaves and a shiny yellow blossom in April. It is the California Flannelbush (Fremontodendron californicum) (or Fremontia californica) , named after explorer/ pathfinder Gen. John Charles Fremont. There are two species in the Cacao family. That includes the rare Mexican Flannelbush (F. mexicanum) that edges into Southern CA. There are also several subspecies and hybrids.

It is appropriate that in the Oakland, CA hills, in Joaquin Miller Park, at the location where the Fremont expedition allegedly camped and named the Golden Gate, that Joaquin the poet built a monument to Fremont and planted a flannelbush next to it. For years it was traditional for naturalist Paul Covel to have a birthday party at that spot. Fremontia occurs chiefly in CA.

Fremont would find new species and send them to Professor John Torrey of Harvard for identification, thus Torrey designated the Fremontia-name in honor of Fremont who found it. Asa Gray was the other Harvard botanist involved in researching for Fremont. Asa Gray and English botanist Joseph Hooker honored Northern CA by some exploration with John Muir on Mt. Shasta in 1875, while also visiting with John Bidwell.

Native plant enthusiast Loren Gill loaned me a book by Fremont, "Memoirs Of My Life," and suggested something be written about his contributions to botanical discoveries along with his other accomplishments. It is a complex story, but his three expeditions from 1842 to 1847 for the U.S. Army Topographical Corps created a fine map and a better understanding of the western land-forms, opening the frontier for pioneers to advance westward. Later, he privately added two more expeditions, largely scientific.

There was not only Flannelbush found by Fremont, but a host of other species. (That fuzzy leaf-flannel can cause skin irritations, but the bark can be used as a tea for throat irritations and the inner-bark sap for wounds. Deer browse on the leaves, however, as they do on poison oak.) Biologist Albin Bills, in commenting about the plants on Table Mountain, mentioned Fremont’s Goldfields, (Lasthenia fremontii), so we have the explorer represented in the small flowers of the region, too. You wonder how the original discovery came about, but somehow, Fremont evidently noticed the plant and pressed it for classification, much like Meriwether Lewis finding bitterroot on the 1803-06 expedition, and pressing it in his shirt pocket to show Jefferson.

Among Fremont’s discoveries in the 1840’s was the Siltassle Bush, (Garrya fremontii), which is also found in Butte County. The genus Garrya has about 88 species, and David Douglas first discovered the genus, naming it in honor of Nicholas Garry, first Secretary of Hudson’s Bay Co. It is sometimes called Bearbrush, FeverBush, and Quinine Bush because of a source of quinine. The long tassels are characteristic.

The most noticeable plant in the Feather River region discovered by Fremont is the Fremont’s Cottonwood (Populus fremontii). This Willow Family tree is found mostly along streams throughout the Southwest, and its cottony seed masses may have been the “feathers” Spanish explorers saw floating on the water in 1820 that accounted for the Feather River’s name. We also have the Black Cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) and Aspen growing above 4000 feet. Back east in Missouri, the cottonwoods I saw along the rivers as a boy were Populus deltoides.

Like most great explorers, they have stood on the shoulders of giants, and in the case of Fremont, he was immensely supported by his wife, the capable Jessica Benton Fremont, the true pathfinder Kit Carson, and the scientists who could put the finishing touches on his discoveries.
Volunteer in BIDWELL PARK

The City of Chico’s Bidwell Park Volunteer Thursdays will return to its afternoon hours in September. Come join the fun working in various Bidwell Park locations. Tools, water, gloves and instructions provided or for more information contact Park Division Volunteer Coordinator Lise Smith-Peters at 530 896-7831 or email: lspeters@ci.chico.ca.us

September 4, 11, 18 & 25
VOLUNTEER THURSDAYS IN THE PARK
Sycamore Restoration Site at One Mile Recreation Area
(2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.).
Volunteers will remove invasive plants, water native plants, and remove litter and more. Meet at the north end of Caper Acres play area at One Mile.

Big Chico Creek Alliance MINING’S TOXIC LEGACY

On September 8, 2008, at 6 pm, at Trinity United Methodist Church, 295 East 5th St. Chico. Sponsored by Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance.

Mike Thornton of The Sierra Fund will make a presentation about “Mining’s Toxic Legacy” addressing the Environmental, Health and Cultural problems related to “Legacy” mining operations dating back to the Gold Rush.

For more information see www.bigchicocreek.org or call 892-2196.

Thank You Germain Boivin
- support for 10 years
from Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

FLORAL NATIVE NURSERY
is a specialized nursery growing and selling
California Native Plants for retail, wholesale, and contracts.
They propagate California trees, shrubs, flowers and grasses from seeds and cuttings for gardens, commercial landscapes, and restoration.
Come visit the nursery at
2511 Floral Avenue, Chico 95973,
530 892-2511. www.floranativenuery.com

Officers & Chairs

ELECTED OFFICERS

President MIKE WILLIAMS
wyethia@earthlink.net
228-1753

Past President SUELLEN ROWLISON
suellen@garlic.com
897-0226

Vice-President JANNA LATHROP
jannalathrop@comcast.net
893-2886

Secretary WOODY ELLIOTT
woodyelliott@digitalpath.net
342-6053

Treasurer MARJORIE MCNAIRN
mlmcnairn@aol.com
343-2397

Member-at-Large GERRY INGCO
genaroingco@aol.com
893-5123
SUSAN BAZELL
bazell@maxinet.com
876-1475
NANCY SHANKS
namsane_nance@yahoo.com
343-3473
PAULA SHAPIRO
343-7440

CHAIRS

Conservation BILL HAAS
wehas1@pcconservation.org
591-7879

Education OPEN

Invasive Plants SUSAN MASON
sl2mason@sbcglobal.net
892-1666

Field Trips WES DEMPSEY
wdempsey@csuchico.edu
342-2293
GERRY INGCO
genaroingco@aol.com
893-5123

Legislation OPEN

Membership PHYLLIS LINDELEY
lindley84@att.net
899-1514

Horticulture JOHN WHITTLESEY
johnccn@sunet.net
533-2166

Newsletter Editor DENISE DEVINE
dsrvine@hotmail.com
345-8444

Programs JIM BISHOP
cjbishop1991@sbcglobal.net

Programs / Rare Plants JOHN DITTES/
JOSEPHINE GUARDINO
jcdittes@sbcglobal.net
384-1774

Publicity DEBRA FAU
nativespringsnursery@yahoo.com
514-8578

Sales JIM DEMPSEY
dempseyja@sbcglobal.net
846-1435

Vol. Recognition / Chapter Council Delegate CATIE BISHOP
cjbishop1991@sbcglobal.net

CCNC Garden JUDI MAXFIELD
judi.maxfield@sbcglobal.net
345-3245

The Pipevine September 2008 7.
September 4

Member Photos & GRAND CANYON

Join Today!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

Name _______________________________________
Address _______________________________________
City ___________________________________________
State _____ Zip ______ email ______________________
Phone _________________________________________

Send Membership Applications to:
CNPS
2707 K Street Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

www.cnps.org.

Student / Retired / Limited Income... $25
Individual / Library.......................... $45
Family / Group............................... $75
Plant Lover................................. $100
Patron..................................... $300
Benefactor.............................. $600

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Chico, CA
Permit No. 553

Time Value
SEPTEMBER 2008 issue

Pipevine

August
26 - Board Meeting
31 - Deadfall Lakes

September
4 - General Meeting
10 - Pipevine Deadline
14 - Kings Creek Falls Hike
17 - Board Meeting
28 - Maidu Walk

October
2 - General Meeting
15 - Board Meeting
15 - Pipevine Deadline