Member Photos and . . .

We have a two-part program for our meeting as we return from our summer lull.

The most important part will be your photos...whatever nice plant-related images you’d like to share (they need not be strictly “California natives”, but at least about native plants and their habitats...your grandchildren at Disney World would be a little outside of what we seek). Please select about 12 photos (5-10 minutes) and let Jim Bishop (cjbishop1991@sbcglobal.net) know whether they are conventional slides or digital images. You might 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.

. . . GLORIA

And a “short program” - visit cool alpine peaks in California’s White and Sierra Nevada Mountains, where thunderstorms grew every day of field work, updating the California part of the international alpine-monitoring project known as “GLORIA”. This summer marked the 5-year re-survey of 8 summits first surveyed in 2004. In addition, several other elements have been added to this climate-change study in the White mountains.

We’ll see some lovely alpine plants and scenes, and how the survey work is accomplished.

Catie and Jim Bishop began work on the GLORIA project as “CNPS” volunteers when it began in 2004. They have participated on all of the California and Nevada sites since then, work that has taken them from treeline to highest peaks, from the White Mountains to the Central Sierra, the Carson Range, and east to Nevada’s Snake Range. The project has allowed them the opportunity to meet and work with lead staff from the international GLORIA headquarters in Austria, and to learn about alpine-plant ecology and its potential response to a warming world.

Presented by CATIE & JIM BISHOP
Field Trips

Wes Dempsey and Gerry Ingco, Co-chairs

COLD BOILING & CRUMBAUGH LAKES
LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK
September 27
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride’s west lot (Hwy99/32) at 8:30 am with, a windbreaker or light jacket, lunch, water, insect/sun protection, money for ride sharing and your Park Pass (If you have one). For an alternate meeting place, call a leader. Take an easy three mile round trip in a little traveled area excellent for birds, wildflowers and deer. At Crumbaugh Lake, elevation 7,200’, see lava cliffs that ring the lake’s basin, and vistas of surrounding peaks. Leader: Gerry Ingco, 530-893-5123

DEER CREEK TRAIL
October 4
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride’s west lot (Hwy99/32) at 9 am with lunch, water, insect/sun protection and money for ride sharing. Call the leader for an alternate meeting place. This is a gentle two-mile hike down to the falls and fish ladder where we will have lunch. Big leaf maple and dogwood should be in full color along with Indian rhubarb and spice-bush. Sierra mint, and California fuchsia should still be in full bloom. Leader: Gerry Ingco, 530-893-5123

Summer Field Trip photos on page 7.

WILLOW LAKE BOG & TERMINAL GEYSER
LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST AND PARK
September 6
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 8:30 am. Willow Lake is in Lassen National Forest just outside the southern boundary of Lassen Volcanic National Park, and north of Chester. Willow Lake is a Botanical Special Interest Area. It contains several floating mats of sphagnum moss that support a variety of unusual plants, including the insect eating roundleaf sundew. Terminal Geyser, in an area of active hydrothermal activity, is reached from Willow Lake by a 1.5 mile trail into Lassen National Park. Travel to Willow Lake on Hwys. 32 and 36 to Chester. From there drive 13 miles to the lake. The last five miles of road are unpaved and rough. Bring lunch, water, sun/insect protection, and money for ride sharing. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: John Whittlesey, 530-533-2166.

COLBY MEADOWS
September 13
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride’s west lot (Hwy99/32) at 8:30 am with lunch, water, insect/sun protection, and money for ride sharing. Call leaders to use the secondary meeting place at Snowmobile Park, east of Butte Meadows, at 9:30 am. Enjoy a two-mile easy walk up to Colby Meadows along Colby Creek. Aspens, red firs, and Jeffrey pines along with fringed gentian, stream orchids, sundews in the lush, hanging meadow. If time permits, we will go up to see the pitcher plants (Darlingtonia) at Cherry Hill. Leaders: Emilie White, 530-894-8057 and Wes Dempsey, 530-342-2293
Executive Board Meeting

September 16, 2009
Wednesday 7:00 pm
2705 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Apt 211
Park on Sierra Ladera, dead end street that turns east off Sierra Sunrise Terrace at a sign that says Sierra Manor
Phyllis Lindley 530-899-1514

President’s Message
by Janna Lathrop
Chapter President

As you are aware by the mailing received last week, our chapter is participating in the North Valley Community Foundation (NVCF) Annie B’s Community Drive. From now through September 30th donations can be made through NVCF in the name of Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS. At the end of the drive MLC will receive a percentage grant in addition to the monies raised by our group. Donations from this drive will be placed into our general budget. Having a healthy budget enables us to continue to fund normal chapter activities and special projects as they arise. We appreciate your consideration to make a donation in the name of Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS during this community-wide drive that helps area non-profit and charitable organizations in Butte, Glenn, Tehama and Colusa counties.

Donations may be made to NVCF
3120 Cohasset Road, Suite 8, Chico CA 95973
Please make your check to: Annie B’s/Mt. Lassen Chapter, CNPS.

To find out more about North Valley Community Foundation, a local philanthropic organization, or to make a donation online, please go to www.nvcf.org.

Historically, MLC has primarily relied on our biennial Wildflower Show and Native Plant Sale to serve as the major fundraiser for our chapter’s budget. With the change in economic times as well as increase in expenses, it proves to be more and more difficult to maintain a healthy budget solely by an every other year fundraising event.

Legislative Notes
by David Anderson

ROADLESS RULE ROW RAGES

The row started with U.S. Forest Service regulations adopted in January 2001, the last month President Clinton was in office. The regulations, now known as the “Roadless Rule,” prohibited commercial logging, mining and other development in 58 million pristine acres of national forests in the lower 48 states and Alaska.

In 2005 the Bush Administration reversed the “Roadless Rule” by publishing changes allowing development and giving states a say in what development would be permitted in their pristine federal forests.

Several western states and environmental groups filed suit in federal district court challenging the Bush changes. On August 5, 2009 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco upheld the challenge and the lower federal court by reinstating the Clinton “Roadless Rule” as written, except that the Tongass National Forest in Alaska and national forests in Idaho have been withdrawn from it. It still applies to 40 million acres of pristine national forest land. The Ninth Circuit Court said that the Bush Administration changes unreasonably skirted the environmental laws by permitting development without environmental review.

Unfortunately, the battle is far from over. Early on opponents of the Clinton “Roadless Rule” filed suit in federal district court challenging the Bush changes. On August 5, 2009 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco upheld the challenge and the lower federal court by reinstating the Clinton “Roadless Rule” as written, except that the Tongass National Forest in Alaska and national forests in Idaho have been withdrawn from it. It still applies to 40 million acres of pristine national forest land. The Ninth Circuit Court said that the Bush Administration changes unreasonably skirted the environmental laws by permitting development without environmental review.

Unfortunately, the battle is far from over. Early on opponents of the Clinton “Roadless Rule” filed suit in federal district court in Wyoming and obtained a decision invalidating the rule. Environmentalists appealed that decision and the case is now pending in the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver. Although the Obama Administration has gone on record as supporting conservation of roadless areas in our national forests, it has not intervened in the 10th Circuit case.

In view of the pending litigation and legal uncertainty surrounding the “Roadless Rule,” on May 28, 2009 Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack imposed a one-year moratorium during which he reserved to himself all decisions involving projects in pristine roadless areas.

Further developments on this vital issue will be reported.

Utilizing a new source of funding helps a small chapter such as ours, but it is not the only asset we can augment to make Mount Lassen Chapter even a stronger presence. We would like to fill the committee vacancies for Rare Plants, Historian, Legislation and Conservation. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. Contact any member of the board for more information.

We appreciate Cindy Weiner for taking over the helm of Publicity chair from departing Deb Fau. Thank you, Deb for the good work you have done handling the publicity tasks for the last several years. Our loss is the Big Sky State’s gain.
Mark your calendar for
October 3, 2009
MOUNT LASSEN CHAPTER
WORKSHOP
“The Beauty of Drought Tolerant Natives”
Several speakers will present slides and information
on why and how to incorporate
drought tolerant native plants into the garden.

Chico Creek Nature Center
Everyone is welcome, beginners especially.
Stay tuned for more details.

Contact Paula Shapiro, Horticulture Chair
343-7440, paulashapiro@wildblue.net

NEW MEMBERS
Holly Nielson   Chico
Judy Perkins    Alturas
Susie Cunningham  Berry Creek
Marilyn Grady   Magalia
Janet Coles     Mineral
Jennifer Iaccarino Mount Shasta
Peggy Adamson  Oroville
Jeannie Maes    Oroville
Karolyynn Yells Oroville
Ruth Kittel     Paradise

REINSTATED
Rodney & Joan Krebs Chico

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

Go to the “Pottery Lottery” at the Gifted Garden on Mangrove
Ave in Chico. Customers who purchase from the large col-
lection of ceramic pottery have the chance to name Mount Lassen
Chapter CNPS as the benefactor of 100% of the pottery purchase
(before sales tax is added).

Let’s encourage businesses to help out with the non-profit groups
in our local community by supporting there efforts.

The Gifted Garden
1238 Mangrove Ave, Chico, CA 95926
530-894-1395
GiftedGarden@comcast.net

ENDS AUG 31

Suellen Rowlison and Susan Mason enjoy Magic Johnson’s field trip
story at the Mount Lassen Chapter Picnic in Cohasset.
Photo by Woody Elliott
Annual Picnic in Cohasset

. . . was held on JUNE 14, 2009 at the home of Elizabeth Tice in Cohasset.

Woody Elliott reports, “A good time was had by all. Thank you all for cooperating with the camera man. Clint and Magic stood tall.”

Thank You Elizabeth!
**CNPS Educational Grants**

Each year the State CNPS Educational Grants program receives funding to help support field research related to California's native plants. Students, CNPS members, or post-doctoral botanists are eligible, in that order, for grants that are generally not more than $1,000. Proposals should involve taxa or plant communities that are of concern due to direct or indirect potential impacts.

The grants need to be relevant to our conservation mission. Certain small endowed funds are available specifically for graduate students planning research involving rare plants or evolutionary botany.

If you are interested in obtaining support from CNPS for your work, request a copy of the guidelines (for drafting and submitting a proposal) from the state CNPS office. Requests for this or other information can be directed to Chair, Educational Grants Committee, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.

Completed proposals must be received in the CNPS office no later than September 30, 2009.

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**CNPS Education Workshops**

Introduction to the second edition of *A MANUAL OF CALIFORNIA VEGETATION*

Sept 15-17, a central Sierra Nevada transect from Calaveras Big Trees to Grover Hot Springs Valley

Primary Instructors and authors: Todd Keeler Wolf, John O. Sawyer, Julie Evens

Location: A 3-day transect across the central Sierra Nevada, from the foothills to the eastern Sierra. We will begin at Calaveras Big Trees and end at Grover Hot Springs Valley, near Markleeville. See http://www.scenic4.org/map.html

Course Description: The authors will debut the greatly expanded second edition of *A Manual of California Vegetation*. They will provide an overview of additions and changes to the manual, including new vegetation types recognized or redefined across many habitats. You will learn how to use the new manual, in the field as we traverse a variety of vegetation types in the Sierra Nevada, as well as its uses for conservation and management.

Cost: Members $445 Non-members $470

For complete details and registration go to http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/index.php

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**Mount Lassen Chapter Summer Field Trip**

Pulga to Mayaro, June 7, 2009. The group poses behind the remains of a stone fountain on the grounds of the 1930s Mayaro Resort near Pulga in the Feather River Canyon.

Summer Field Trips

Hidden Lakes & Long Lake Loop
South Cabibou Wilderness Area
Lassen National Forest

Top - Susan Bazell and Emilie White stop at an unnamed lake in the Caribou Wilderness Area while scouting the trail on Aug 3, 2009.

Bottom - On Aug 9, 2009 field trippers stop to view one of the “Hidden Lakes” L- R Emilie White, Peggy Adamson, Skip Maxfield, Marci and Robert Hutichen, and Paul Moore

Photos by Gerry Ingco
In torrid July when the merciless sun beats down on Butte County flora and fauna, and people hunt for shade or air-conditioners, and while the great flower show of spring slumbers in their seeds, several sun-loving species bloom defiantly and endure the intense heat!

Among the sun clan are the Crape Myrtles (*Lagerstroemia indica*) that line several streets in Oroville. Although this shrub or tree is native to China, its durable beauty and great clusters of pink flowers makes it noteworthy even to a CNPS devotee. I am amazed to see those masses of tender blossoms glowing brightly in direct sun when the heat intensity would seemingly wither them brown. "...The power of water...and turgor!"

There are three sun lover species that come to mind along with crape myrtle. One species is the Bindweed, (*Convolvulus arvensis*), and although not a native, having been introduced from Eurasia for its ornamental beauty, it is a true sun lover, opening delicate white, morning-glory-type blossoms on barren clayey soil in the hottest of weather. I'm always amazed to see those pretty petals unfurl in the sun after being closed all night, and not wilt. The vine goes snaking across the soil even as the roots twine their way as much as 15 feet deep. It could be considered an invasive plant since it is difficult to control in crop land, and the leaves and roots are toxic to livestock.

My third nominee is a native, obnoxious to some because of an acrid pungency, but also persistent in its tenacity to endure the searing heat of summer. The lovely "bluecurls" bloom gives no indication of the riveting vinegar smell of the Vinegar Weed (*Trichostema lanceolatum*) growing out in the brown fields. Its aroma attracts not only insects, but Indians were drawn to find uses of the volatile oils that discourages competition from adjacent plants. Real or imagined, they contended it was valuable for pain, colds, fever, and even use as an anti-flea repellent. The fuzzy, lance-like leaves distinguishes it from *T. Lanatum*, the bluecurl with more blossom and less oil.

The fourth entry is a native quite common in barren dirt parking lots or other open areas where it thrives even though the pale green foliage appears sickly, but it grows close to the simmering soil completely in love with the sun. The common name is Turkey Mullein, or Dove Weed (*Croton setigerus*, formally *Eremocarpus setigerus*), in the Spurge family. The tiny flat flowers appear to be miniature bird nests, and the profusion of seeds are readily devoured by birds, including turkey, from where the common name comes. The plant is toxic and was used by Indians to stupify fish.

Another mullein is not in the same family and is an introduced species, an alien among strangers. The Common Mullein, or Woolly as Oswald called it more descriptively, (*Verbascum thapsus*), a Figwort, was brought from Europe to the U.S. in the early 1800's, and to California in 1876, becoming so widespread many botanists thought it was a native. The yellow flowers on the tall stalk produce as many as 250,000 long-lived seeds that may lie dormant in the soil for 100 years. The seeds are too small for birds. The soft, velvety leaves were even used by Indians for throat ailments, yellow dyes, and torches.

The other mullein in Butte County is the Moth Mullein (*Verbascum blattaria*), another alien, but, like the common mullein, not harmfully invasive, and they have larger pretty yellow flowers on the tall stalk. The "moth" moniker refers to the fuzzy purple stamens reminiscent of a moth's antennae. "Mullein" can be spelled "Mullen" and pronounced accordingly, declares Mr. Webster.

There are a number of other adaptable sun lovers thriving in the fiery fields, adding a touch of green and colored beauty in the doldrums of summer...plants that deserve equal admiration for their sheer tenaciousness in combating the rigors of adverse conditions.

"...And as it criticized each flower, / This supercilious seed; / Until it woke one summer hour, / and found itself a weed."

-- Mildred Howells from *The Different Seed*
Volunteer in BIDWELL PARK

Come join the fun working in various Bidwell Park locations. Tools, water, gloves and instructions provided. For more information contact Park Division Volunteer Coordinator Lise Smith-Peters at 530 896-7831 or lspeters@ci.chico.ca.us

September 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
VOLUNTEER TUESDAYS IN THE PARK
1:30 - 4:30 pm Worksite to be announced soon!
Check the Park Division Volunteer Calendar on the City of Chico website!

September 3, 10, 17 & 24
VOLUNTEER THURSDAYS IN THE PARK
Five Mile Recreation Area
2 - 4:30 pm Volunteers will remove invasive plants, including privets, blackberry, ivy and others, as well as litter. Meet at the Five Mile parking lot on the south side of Big Chico Creek (take Centennial Ave east across Manzanita Ave to the parking lot).

September 12 & 26
SATURDAYS IN THE PARK
9 am - noon Volunteers will remove European hackberry trees in the area between picnic sites 24 and 25 on the north side of Big Chico Creek in Lower Bidwell Park. If driving, worksite access is through the Madrone Ave pedestrian entrance way on Vallombrosa Ave (park car on Vallombrosa) then walk across pedestrian bridge and turn left on Petersen Drive (the paved road) and go about 500 feet. If you need directions, call cell 624-3982.

Friends of the Herbarium
WORKSHOPS

September 12
INTRODUCTION TO THE SUNFLOWERS

October 10
OAK WOODLAND ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

November 14
GROWING AND PROPAGATING NATIVE PLANTS FOR THE GARDEN

November 21
BASICS OF NATIVE GRASS SEED COLLECTION AND STORAGE

FOR MORE INFORMATION about Friends of the Herbarium workshops go to www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html

The Chico State Herbarium is managed under the umbrella of the Gateway Science Museum. For more information about the Gateway Science Museum (formerly the Northern California Natural History Museum) please go to www.gatewayscience.org/.

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(530)

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:
MOUNT LASSEN CHAPTER CNPS
P. O. BOX 3212
CHICO, CA 95927-3212

www.cnps.org.

FREE HAT! to Aug 31
see Page 4

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

Calendar 2009

August
19 - Board Meeting
23 - Green Island Lake

September
3 - Program Meeting
6 - Willow Lake
9 - Pipevine Deadline
13 - Colby Meadows
16 - Board Meeting
27 - Cold Boiling Lake

October
1 - Program Meeting
3 - Natives Workshop
4 - Deer Creek Hike
14 - Pipevine Deadline
16 - Board Meeting