How Do Many **SEED PLANTS** Get Around . . .

*without the help of people?*

Presented by ROBERT SCHLISING, Ph D

Seed plant propagules exhibit an array of features that may relate to their dispersal, such as diversity in sizes and weights, and in structures, textures, colors, and chemicals. Knowledge about propagule dispersal in seed plants exists in at least three different levels.

1) There are many plants where we can see first-hand what carries about the seeds or fruits in nature, resulting in successful multiplication of the species. 2) There are cases where we assume what agent of dispersal (e.g., wind, water or animals) carries propagules away from the plants producing them, to areas where they establish new plants. 3) There are many examples of plants for which we have no clue how they get around. This talk will present numerous (often gaudy and graphic) close-up color images of seed plant propagules to illustrate these three levels of our knowledge. Part of the take-home lesson will emphasize the occurrence of stochastic (rare, unusual or extreme) events in nature that may help account for dispersal. People help many plants get around too, of course, but that is another story.

Long into retirement from Chico State University, the speaker still mentors a few graduate students in botany a bit, but mainly keeps busy volunteering with several local botanical and environmental organizations. Several multi-year field research projects are still on-going, like censusing plant life in summer vernal pool basins, and studying basic plant reproductive biology with several colleagues, on geophytes and gentians. His newest personal goal is attracting as many species of native bees as possible to feed on native and non-native plants in his small Chico garden - 23 types of bees in 2010!

Seeds await detachment and dispersal in this corky, dehisced fruit of California Pipevine (*Aristolochia californica*). Photo by Robert Schlising
2. The Pipevine

November 2010

CAMPUS TREE TOURS
November 5, 19, December 3
Fridays

Meet in front of Bidwell Mansion at 10 am for these informative walks to see and hear about the marvelous old trees on the mansion grounds and the adjacent University campus - over 200 species of woody plants. Many of these date back to the original landscaping around the mansion in 1870 and on the campus about 1890. See red horse chestnut, American chestnut, Persian oak, smoke tree, cockspur coral, strawberry tree, and many others. Parking is free and tours finish at 11:45. Leaders, Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293 and Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123.

OLD PLANT INTRODUCTION STATION WALK
November 21
Sunday

Meet at the Mendocino Genetic Resource Center at 9:30 am (from Skyway drive south on Dominic Dr to Morrow Lane, left to Kramer Lane, south to parking by gate). Established in 1904, woody plants from all over the world were planted here by the USDA to test their use in medicine, agriculture and forestry, many still survive. Expect to see lacebark pine, Shantung maple, mourning cypress, Chinese wingnut, giant bamboo, several species of pistachio, and many others. We will finish by noon. Leaders, Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293 and Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123.

UPPER BUTTE CREEK FLUME FALL COLORS
October 31
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwy 32/99) at 8:30 am with lunch, water and ride-sharing money. We will drive up the Skyway to Powellton Road and then hike down to the flume-the last part through a magnificent hanging garden of chain ferns. From here we walk past nutmegs and big leaf maples along the ditch bank and over narrow catwalks above the flume for 2 1/2 miles to Clear Creek falls where we will have lunch before returning. Leaders, Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293 and Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123.

TEN-MILE HOUSE TRAIL TO BIG CHICO CREEK
November 28
Sunday

Meet at the Green Gate entrance to Upper Bidwell Park at 9:30 am, (drive east on Hwy 32, nine miles from Chico’s Hwy 99/32 interchange). Bring lunch and water. Wear hiking gear. We will follow an old road down to the creek (700-foot drop) for 1 1/2 miles past buckeye and black oak in fruit and stop to see if the persimmon tree at the spring is ready to harvest. Leaders, Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123 and Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293.

DEER CREEK TRAIL
November 7
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwy 32/99) at 8:30 am. Bring lunch, water, insect/sun protection, and money for ride sharing. 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 spicebush. Sierra mint, and California fuchsia should still be in full bloom. Leaders, Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123 and Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293.

CENTERVILLE FLUME
December 5
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwy 32/99) at 9 am or phone for secondary meeting place. Bring lunch and water. On our annual stroll along one of Chico’s most delightful walks we will see the last of summer’s blooms (lessingia, snapdragon, camporum) and the first of the winter ones (manzanita, bay, mistletoe). We have recorded more than 24 species in bloom along here over the past years. Leaders, Gerry Ingco 530-893-5123 and Wes Dempsey 530-342-2293.
Executive Board Meeting
November 17, 2010
Wednesday 7 pm
Community Room, 1550 Springfield Drive
Glenbrook Apt Homes
Janna Lathrop, 636-4547 or 228-0010

President’s Message
by Janna Lathrop
Chapter President

As with any non-profit organization, there is the challenge of balancing our operating budget and offering financial support to projects that promote and preserve California’s native flora. Recent chapter support has been given toward local invasive plant removal and a local flora publication. The board looks at ways to improve our fundraising efforts, which provides almost 100 per cent of our chapter’s operating budget. This is one of the reasons we participated in the recent Annie B’s Community Drive for the second year.

This is also why a committee formed to review our major fundraiser event, the Wildflower Show. As explained further in this newsletter, expenses involved with hosting it continue to be a major factor to the bottom line of the revenue success. The 14th biennial Wildflower Show will continue as an ambitious one-day event that combines a native plant sale, table sales of related publications and goods, along with the premiere attraction, our showcase of collected examples of local native flora. The Wildflower Show offers the opportunity to appreciate the beauty and learn about the diversity of area native plants.

We have begun to take steps to look at the feasibility of a Mount Lassen Chapter website. We would appreciate any thoughts or concerns from our membership about features, content, designs and costs. We would also appreciate hearing from any member with experience or background in web page design or being a Webmaster. A Mount Lassen Chapter dedicated website will be an effective tool to promote our chapter and the California Native Plant Society in general.

Even though we do not have a website specifically, you can still access the October edition of the Pipevine online and in color. Go to www.cnps.org, click the Chapters link, scroll to Mount Lassen Chapter-newsletter. Our wonderful, talented Pipevine editor, Denise Devine, has been experimenting with a color version and you can see the results. The great photos by John Whittlesey in the newsletter really pop in color.

Legislative Notes
by David Anderson

THE FORGOTTEN BILL

Federal and California agencies are now cooperating in a huge program known as the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP). The DRECP will follow the guidelines for federal Habitat Conservation Plans and California Natural Communities Conservation Plans to protect wildlife and plant ecosystems. The program is designed to expedite large scale solar panel and wind turbine proposals. It will cover 23 million acres of California desert, consisting mostly of federal land administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The solar panel/wind turbine proposals are a response to California and federal laws designed to reduce reliance on foreign oil, curtail greenhouse gas emissions and create new jobs.

It is fortunate that these large scale renewable energy proposals are getting environmental review, in spite of intense political pressure on government to create jobs as soon as possible. It is unfortunate, however, that this political pressure seems to have stymied a bill in Congress that would have completed protection for the heart of California’s pristine Mojave Desert.

In December, 2009 our Senator, Diane Feinstein, introduced S.2921 (California Desert Protection Act of 2010). It would, among other things, create two new national monuments and connect Joshua Tree National Park and the Mojave National Preserve. These proposed new national monuments of about a million acres would provide much greater and more permanent protection for the best of our Mojave Desert national treasure than will habitat conservation plans.

Within days after it was introduced, S.2921 came under fire from the New York Times for allegedly causing abandonment of two renewable energy proposals and putting a chill of uncertainty on renewable energy projects in general. S.2921 was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and was the subject of hearings on May 10, 2010. It has no co-sponsors and still sits in Committee.

Since the DRECP program is based on the assumption that there are 23 million acres of desert land potentially suitable for renewable energy projects, removing about a million acres for national monuments should be feasible. S.2921 merits support.

At the November 3rd general meeting we will be having our sales table that evening. There will be a selection of books, shirts, posters and more. Just in time to help kick off the festive gift-giving season for one you know or to treat yourself.

The next Chico Creek Nature Center Native Garden Day will be Sunday November 20, from 9 am to Noon. Bring your enthusiasm and favorite tools as we continue to weed and prune.
JANNA LATHROP
DISTINGUISHED VOLUNTEER
by Catie Bishop
Volunteer Recognition Chair

Janna Lathrop, our president, has been a member of this Chapter for about 10 years. On our Chapter Board she has been member-at-large, publicity chair, secretary, vice president, and president, and soon to be past-president. But there’s much more to the story. Janna is a special kind of volunteer who doesn’t wait to be asked to help. Instead she sees a need then jumps in with both feet. She doesn’t cut corners, always insisting on being inclusive and doing the right thing, even if it means more work. She probably had no idea how much time she would be spending in chapter work. But even with a full-time job, and many family commitments, she has generously given lots of her time. Her attitude makes it all pleasant, and makes everyone she works with more comfortable. She is quick to smile, laugh and reassure.

Janna has always done a professional job with whatever task she takes on. She can be relied upon to follow through with anything she has volunteered for. The times can’t be counted that she has been the first or only volunteer to staff a table, take a board position nobody wanted, store and haul around our display boards and brochures, make phone calls or be on committees. Many of you remember her as a long time docent for Vina Plains, and she is currently on the trail maintenance crew in Bidwell Park. At each and every general meeting she brings the display boards and brochures, lays them out making information available to the members each time. She’s not hesitant to do the routine tasks like weeding the native garden at the nature center. She seems tireless in her commitment to the Chapter and the State organization.

So today we want to say to Janna, here is a big hug from the chapter, Thank you, and good job. We appreciate all you have done.

Thank You!
Janna

MOUNT LASSEN CHAPTER
Nominations
2011 Elected Officers

The following names are being nominated for Mount Lassen Chapter, 2011 Executive Board Officers. The election will be held at the November 3, 2010 General Meeting. Members should attend and VOTE.

President PAUL MOORE
Vice President JOHN MEEHAN
Secretary CINDY WEINER
Treasurer SUSAN BAZELL
Members-at-Large
GERRY INGCO
ERIN GOTTSCHALK-FISHER
PHYLLIS LINDLEY
NANCY SCHLEIGER
MELANIE WILLIAMS

CHICO CREEK Nature Center
GARDEN DAYS
November 20
December 11
9 am - noon
BRING GARDEN TOOLS
CCNC NATIVE PLANT GARDEN
1968 E. 8th Street, Chico

ON APRIL 17, 2011 the Mount Lassen Chapter will once again host our biennial Wildflower Show. The State Legislature has designated the 3rd week of April as NATIVE PLANT WEEK. There will be celebrations all up and down the State. Our Chapter’s Wildflower Show will be on the first day of the Native Plant week, and we want it to be a spectacular affair.

We are in the process of planning some new offerings this time around including making the nature walks more interactive, and bringing in expert speakers. For the first time we are sponsoring a high-school student native plant illustration contest. The winning illustration will be on a special-edition Wildflower Show t-shirt.

As you know, our Wildflower Show is the main fund raising event that supports our Chapter for 2 years. Your membership dues support the good work of the State organization, but not the Chapter. Our Chapter funds support the publication of the Pipevine, speaker expenses, donations to other organizations that further the conservation of native plants, outreach and education activities, as well as other good things.

FUNDS NEEDED
The room at the CARD Center where the Wildflower Show is held is very expensive to rent. We don’t like raising our admission price as we want to be as inclusive as possible. So this year we are asking you, our Chapter members, to donate toward paying the cost of the facility. Our goal is $700. That will cover the cost of our non-profit rent for the large room, a smaller room, and the outside space in the back. Any amount will be very welcome, and very helpful to our fundraising efforts. Please send a check to Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS P.O. Box 3212 Chico CA. 95927-3212.

And make sure you save April 17th on your calendar for next year. You won’t want to miss the next Wildflower Show!

DO YOU HAVE NATIVE PLANTS IN YOUR LANDSCAPE? Are they producing seeds? Are they in need of a little pruning? If you answered “yes” to two of these questions, you are eligible to contribute to the up-coming Wildflower Show and Plant Sale. Please call Paula Shapiro (530-343-7440) to arrange seed or cutting collection. Your contribution is needed to produce plants for the plant sale.

COLLECTING
Next April 16, 2011 is plant collecting day for our major fund-raising event of the year, the Wildflower Show. It is fun to collect on a nice spring day. Consider helping out next year and being backup for current collectors. This is a great opportunity to learn plants and identification from some real masters.

Most of the people doing our collecting have been doing it for a good many years and we realize the time may come when some will tire of doing this or be unable to do it. We are asking our members to consider going along with experienced collectors to learn what and where they collect and how to bring in the plants in good condition the next morning. We hope to have at least one or two ‘interns’ for each collecting group.

If you are interested in doing this or have questions about it email Susan Bazell: bazell@maxinet.com.
Lady of the Woods

by Rex Burress

In late June I made a visit to Oakland Camp - that delightful destination on the Spanish Creek tributary of the Feather River near Quincy, CA. Visions of towering pines, musical rapids, wildflowers, butterflies, friendly people, and a couple decades of discovering nature there as camp naturalist, were the compelling enticements to lure me back.

Also, there was a new lady I wanted to meet in the woods! I was told by present camp naturalist, Joe Willis, who discovered her, that she was shy and hid in the deep shadows of a forest glade.

We made the trek to the cool depths of the forest (“...and the wonderful solace it brings”), and there Joe introduced me to her. What a beauty! Her plump pale face shined brightly in the gloom, and how exquisitely she was adorned with a collar of yellow and three brown ribbons, as if she was dressed to meet royalty but clung to her sylvan home.

Her name was Lady’s Slipper, *Cypripedium montanum*, a member of the orchid family. Joe was the first ever to discover the patch of plants as far as I know, as the first camp naturalist, Paul Covel, never mentioned them, and I had passed by the cove hundreds of times without seeing the sleek ladies growing low to the ground under the canopy of the hidden habitat.

Paul would have been especially ecstatic to find them, as he lovingly listed the species he found in the region - even the aliens! He was particularly proud of the delicate Sierra Crane Orchids on Toll-Gate Creek, and the pitcher plants in Butterfly Valley were among some of his favorites. Paul said, “Plants from many lands help spread goodwill throughout the world.” He said that even though being a founding member of the California Native Plant Society!

At that higher elevation and cool spring, many summer wildflowers were late to bloom. A few leopard lilies were breaking forth, and hardy milkweed plus other eager spring arrivals flourished along the creek. Most reassuringly, green vegetation sported their new season finery, and foliage is always elevating to spirit and eye. The conifers are everlastingly green, even amid winter’s harsh fury, and there is no aroma like the sun-warmed spiny brown leaf mat lingering beneath the boughs. Never mind that pines have no showy blossoms such as the magnolia tree displays - the monoecious conifer creates large, seed-holding cones that embellish the branches.

There are also lovely ladies (and lads) in the camp matrix that feed new life into the camp program every year...since 1924! Presently, lady Lily (Kaplan) is the directing wheel, along with her camp manager David Edgar - and the eternally vital staff is indispensable. Think Oakland Feather River Camp and you think camaraderie and revitalizing atmosphere and camp caboose and good food and Stellar’s Jay and murmuring waters and refreshing breezes and Art Camp and nature study!

My stable friend in the roadside pine bark, who I named “Walter” (after Walter Riddez, one of the finest gentlemanly and artistic seniors I ever met), was there, as he has been for two decades, even though his counterpart - Walter died a dozen years ago. You, too, can find a flora or fauna friend to whom you can return time and time again...because “Going to the woods is going home,” as John Muir said. It’s engraved on Paul Covel’s rock at camp and in the minds of millions!

There is no music like a river’s. It plays the same tune over and over again, yet one does not weary of it like men fiddlers. For it takes the mind out-of-doors, and though we should be thankful for good houses, there is, afterall, no house like God’s great out-of-doors. – Robert Louis Stevenson
NEGOTIATION SKILLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM SOLVING

NOV 17-19, 2010
Instructor: JIM NELSON
with special guests including Carol Witham
Splash Center, Mather, CA (Sacramento Area)

Three days of classroom exercises and case studies. Environmental negotiations are often more complex than other negotiations due to their technical complexity, regulatory complexity, interest from many parties, and often, the emotional nature of the parties. This workshop presents basic negotiation concepts (e.g., Fisher and Ury’s, “Getting to Yes” series) and specific environmental issue applications. Negotiation simulations and role playing are used to provide a fun and safe way to learn negotiation principles. In addition, everyone is encouraged to prepare for upcoming (real life) negotiations during this course. This course emphasizes using principled negotiation approaches. The attendees are taught to recognize commonly encountered tactics and shown productive responses. Guest presenters will provide examples of successful negotiations. The skills taught in this class help many reduce anxiety about negotiating while helping to achieve successful outcomes. Course materials provide useful tools for future negotiations. CNPS Members: $395; Non-Members: $420

PLANT TAXONOMY TEACHER TRAINING

Nov 20-21, 2010
Instructor: DR. GLENN KEATOR
Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Tilden Park, Berkeley

This course is for people interested in teaching a plant taxonomy course at the junior college or extended education level. Potential teachers should be familiar with California flora and its plant families and have taken one or more semesters of Plant Taxonomy or Systematics. We will not be teaching plant taxonomy in this course but will teach how to teach a course using the syllabus provided by Dr. Glenn Keator. Cost includes lunch. CNPS Members: $100; Non-Members $125

For full details and registration for all workshops go to http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/index.php
Reduced or fee waivers are available for students and under-employed CNPS members. Please go to http://cnps.org/cnps/education/work_exchange.php for more information or to apply.

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NOVEMBER 3

SEED plants

Pipevine

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I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

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www.cnps.org.

Calendar 2010

October
31 - Upper Butte Flume

November
3 - General Meeting
5 - Campus Tree Tour
7 - Deer Creek Trail
17 - Board Meeting
19 - Campus Tree Tour
20 - CCNC Garden Day
21 - Old Plant Intro Station
28 - Ten-mile House Trail

December
1 - General Meeting
3 - Campus Tree Tour
5 - Centerville Flume
11 - CCNC Garden Day

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