General Meeting
SEPTEMBER 6, 2017
Wednesday   7:00 pm
Butte County Library, Chico

A Creative and Lively PICTORIAL EVENT
Never Before Seen, From Our MEMBER PHOTOS

This is bound to be an interesting and diverse program. The central part of this program will be your photos, whatever pretty or informative plant-related or natural landscape images you’d like to share ... maybe not too many of your pets or ‘selfies’ from your Fourth-of-July.

Please select about 12 or 15 photos (8 or 10 minutes worth) and let Jim Bishop (cjbishop1991@sbcglobal.net) know that you have some slides to show - ahead of the meeting is the best - and whether they are conventional slides or digital images. If they are digital images, please note what kind of files you have (PowerPoint, JPEG, etc.) so that we can make sure the computer will actually show your pictures. You might have a few extra images in reserve in case we don’t get many contributors, and please be ready to trim down if we get a lot - this rather spontaneous program requires a little flexibility on the part of the presenters.

JOIN US for our 2017 season opening program, one that is bound to be worth seeing ... and better yet, bring part of the show.
SAUCER AND GREEN ISLAND LAKES
LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST

September 23
Saturday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwys 32/99) in time to leave at 8:30 am. Wear sturdy shoes, bring lunch, water, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. We’ll drive northeast 27 miles on Hwy 32, then 12 miles north on paved county road to Butte Meadows, then 9 miles on unpaved graded roads to Sunflower Flat trailhead. See California asters as we hike 1.5 miles down to Soda Creek, then up 400 ft to Green Island Lake at about 6200 ft ele. The 5 acre lake has a floating mat of vegetation rimmed with huckleberry, buckbean and potentilla. The delightful spring feeding the lake has a display of yellow monkey flowers. California fuchsia is in flower along the trail to Saucer Lake. Unfortunately, due to the hot summer, many of these flowers may be over. On the way back we stop at Frog Lake and step out on its tiny floating island. We’ve seen Pileated Woodpeckers on this delightful hike. Round trip is 4 miles, difficulty is rated moderate due to uphill climbs and the high elevation. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: Woody Elliott, 530 588-2555, woody.elliott@gmail.com

Green Island Lake stitched photo by Woody Elliott
President’s Message
by WOODY ELLIOTT, President

CHOICES

On a trip back from a guitar social near the “town” of Butte Meadows, an acquaintance asked me, “What was meadowfoam good for anyway?” He was reacting to a recent newspaper article about the grading along Bruce Rd. and Raley Blvd. near the Skyway on Chico Unified School District land. That grading project is associated with required planting / preservation of Butte County meadowfoam (a Federal & State protected endangered species) north of Chico on Meridian Rd.

I tried to explain the importance of “saving the pieces of our ecological puzzle” which he dismissed as being contrary to Darwin’s accepted theory of survival of the fitness, i.e. human-kind was fitter than meadowfoam. He rightly pointed out that we make choices individually and as a society. Not very successfully containing my composure, I attempted to make him aware that not all choices are correct when based on ignorance.

So, how do we make the best choices: clear cutting vs. selectively harvesting our forests; maintaining thirsty ornamental plants vs. converting to native trees and shrubs in our urban forest and residential gardens; biking or walking vs. driving cars around town; vacationing locally vs. traveling miles away?

We in California are lucky to live in a very affluent society and are able to take advantage of our accumulated material wealth. I do not always choose the most environmentally friendly alternatives. However, I sometimes moderate my choices that affect our environment in appreciation of their ecological consequences.

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) helps us make better choices with the educational component of its several programs. This awareness raising is the most important reason to support CNPS with membership dues, additional contributions, and engagement in Chapter and statewide activities. I am proud and enlightened as I engage with CNPS at its many levels. CNPS helps me, and I hope you, make better choices for better living now and in the future. Cheers!

NOTE: Butte County meadowfoam (Limnanthes floccose ssp. californica) is a California and federal endangered plant species. Law prohibits killing or possessing the plant or disturbing its habitat. It is an annual forb growing only in a narrow 28-mile strip in Butte County. Plants primarily occupy the deepest parts of vernal swales that connect vernal pools. They are diminutive and ephemeral with mostly inconspicuous flowers, which makes their discovery exciting.

The genus name Limnanthes means marshflower and the common name “Meadowfoam” arose due to the appearance, at full bloom, of a solid canopy of creamy white flowers in some species. Several meadowfoam species are native to northern California, southern Oregon, and Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

Oil from meadowfoam seed was discovered by USDA sponsored research to have unique chemical properties of commercial value. Its oil is used in cosmetics because of its stability and excellent moisturizing and UV protective properties. White meadowfoam (Limnanthes alba) is now grown commercially in the Pacific Northwest and Europe. Ref: www.wildlife.ca.gov, https://hort.purdue.edu, http://nature-scrops.com

Butte County Meadowfoam, Limnanthes floccose ssp. californica
April 1, 2017, Meriam Park Preserve, Chico
by Woody Elliott
NEW LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

On August 21 the California Legislature returned from summer recess. In past years it has remained in session until September 1. This year it will continue in session until September 15, and Governor Brown will have until October 15 to act on bills.

CNPS has not yet posted online the numbers of the bills it is supporting or opposing. The California Information website lists 4 Assembly bills and 14 Senate bills CNPS is watching. Depending on what changes are made in the bills in the chaotic final month of the 2017 session, CNPS will support and oppose many of them. Future newsletters will summarize the bills on which CNPS takes a position.

HOSPITALITY

by KARROLYNN YELLS, Hospitality Chair

Conscientious people are needed to bring cookies or snacks to the Fall General Meetings. Please contact KarroLynn Yells at 530 534-3551 or karrolynny@att.net. A SIGN UP SHEET WILL ALSO BE AT THE HOSPITALITY TABLE at the General Meetings, October, November & December 2017. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT.

DONATE California Native Plants for WALL FIRE VICTIMS

The Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council is requesting donations of native plant seedlings to give to those who were affected by the recent Wall Fire in Butte County. Plant donations will be accepted after the residents have had time to clean up their properties and reestablish water and electrical services. Catie Bishop recommends these plants as suitable for the areas that were burned:

- Blue oak Quercus douglasii
- Black oak Quercus kelloggii
- Live oak Quercus wislizenii and Q. chrysolepis
- California bay Umbellularia californica
- California buckeye Aesculus californica
- Foothill pine Pinus sabiniana
- Ponderosa pine Pinus ponderosa
- Madrone Arbutus menziesii
- Toyon Heteromeles arbutifolia
- Coffeeberry Rhamnus californica
- Manzanita Arctostaphylos glauca
- Honeysuckle Lonicera interrupta
- Deergrass Muhlenbergia rigens
- Redbud Cercis occidentalis
- Coyote bush Baccharis pilularis
- Buck brush Ceanothus cuneatus

Contact Brenda Rightmyer at BRightmyer@att.net or (530) 370-5302 for more information.
As a result of pre-field trip scouting, the destination of the Silver Lake to Gold Lake field trip (July 30, 2017) was changed to Brady’s Camp Special Interest Area. At about 1000 feet higher at 6080 feet and a bit cooler the blooms were still at their peak. Brady’s Camp is a large meadow complex within the red fir zone southeast of Quincy. Pine Creek flows north-to-south along the west side of the meadow. A primitive campground is located at the southwest edge of the forest, and near the campground is a signed champion lodgepole pine tree, 120 feet tall, 46 inches diameter and 145 inches circumference. The meadow complex has been recognized as one of the most floristically diverse areas on the Plumas National Forest, as the site contains plant elements from the Great Basin, northern Sierra, and the Cascade Range. Mount Lassen Chapter has participated in conservation efforts to limit the use of off-highway vehicles in the area, and it was observed one remnant logging road has been obliterated.

Our group was able to identify about half of the 148 species on a 1991 plant list. The most numerous species on the list were grasses at 21, and although we did not identify them, two-thirds are native. Asteraceae was the next numerous family, with 11 of the 18 on the list identified. Among them in the dry areas were yarrow (Achillea millefolium), whitneya (Arnica dealbata), narrow-leaved mule ears (Wyethia angustifolia), mountain mule ears (Wyethia mollis) and white hawkweed (Hieracium albiflorum). In the moist areas and along the creek were the lilies and orchids, including boreal bog orchid (Platanthera dilatata), leopard lily (Lilium pardalinum ssp. pardalinum), Shasta lily (Lilium pardalinum ssp. shastense) and corn lily (Veratr um californicum), and members of the buttercup family or Ranunculaceae including crimson cumbine (Aquilegia formosa), monkshood (Aconitum columbianum), dwarf larkspur (Delphinium nuttallianum), meadow rue (Thalictrum fendleri), marsh marigold (Caltha leptosepala) and arrowhead butterweed (Senecio triangularis). Two interesting species were wild peony (Paeonia brownii) in fruit, since it blooms early soon after snowmelt, and mountain prettyface (Triteleia ixiodes ssp. analina). Species identified new to the 1991 Brady’s Camp Plant List are scarlet gilia (Ipomopsis aggregata) wallflower (Erysimum capitatum var. capitatum), and a bog orchid with green flowers (Platanthera sparsiflora).

After walking through the Pine Creek area, the meadow area and upland areas, we drove the rough road to Argentine Rock to enjoy the extensive vista from the Sierra Buttes northward to the Lassen area, though smoke from the Minerva fire southeast of Quincy partially obstructed our view. A dilapidated and decaying fire lookout cab is on top of the rock.
CELEBRATE
CALIFORNIA’S FLORA!

FRIENDS OF THE CHICO STATE HERBARIUM

7th Annual Fall Photo Event

Friends of the Chico State Herbarium invites photographers to submit their best native plant, native landscape images to our 6th annual photo event. We have four categories this year - **Open/nonjudged** photo category (for those photographers who would like their work to be part of the display, but do not want to be part of the competitive categories), plus **Landscape, Close-up** and **photographs of plants taken during the Solar Eclipse**! When submitting, please indicate the category.

**Prizes for Landscape and Close-up categories**

1st - $75 or free FOH workshop
2nd - $50 and FOH T-Shirt
3rd - $35 and FOH T-Shirt

**Submit your photos by October 13, 2017**

Specifications: Images must be of California native plants. A $10 submission fee allows two entries per participant. All entries must be received by Friday Oct. 13th, 2017. Submit photos in either 8 x 10” or 8 x 12” format as both a hardcopy and as a digital file. Digital file to be sent to johnccnd@gmail.com. Include a note with the title or subject, your name and contact information. Submit prints and $10 cash or check - made out to CSU Research Foundation (Friends of the Herbarium on the note line) - in person to the Biology office in Holt Hall (CSU campus) OR by mail to: 2017 Plant Photo Event, Chico State Herbarium, CSU Chico, Chico CA 95929-0515. Submit the digital file and any questions to John at johnccnd@gmail.com.

Photos will be on display at the Herbarium Annual Meeting and will not be returned. For more information on the photo contest or FOH visit [http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/](http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/).
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Keep up with MLC Activities
on our website and Facebook

California Native Plant Society,
Mount Lassen Chapter
and LIKE US

mountlassen.cnps.org

Janna Lathrop our fearless and knowledgeable guide through the bog, Kennedy Meadows, July 2 2017 by Jon Aull
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter new _____ renew _____

Name __________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
City ____________________________________________________________
State _______ Zip ___________ Phone _____________________________
Email __________________________________________________________

Phyllis would say Join Today!

Send Membership Application to:
CNPS
2707 K STREET, SUITE 1
SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-5113
mountlassen.cnps.org

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

Calendar 2017

September
6 - General Meeting
10 - Lassen VNP Lakes
20 - Ex Board Meeting
21 - CCNC Garden Workday
23 - Saucer / Green Is Lakes

October
4 - General Meeting
18 - Ex Board Meeting

November
1 - General Meeting
15 - Ex Board Meeting