Native Salvias for the Garden

Presented by JOHN WHITTLESEY

California native salvias are some of the most popular plants in native, habitat-friendly and drought tolerant gardens - for good reason. They require little water, are adaptable to many soil conditions, and they are beautiful! Native salvias can feature attractive and fragrant foliage and they bear long blooming flowers - which range in color from white, to cream, to blue and purple and even red. Their forms range from annuals, to ground covers, to worthy woody shrubs.

To top it all off, these stalwarts attract and support a whole range of pollinators and flower visitors. While there are only 19 species of salvia native to California (out of nearly 1000 in the genus worldwide) these have given rise to a wealth of excellent garden hybrids and cultivars.

John will talk about the evolution and adaptation of the different California salvias to varying soils, exposures and climatic environments as well as the pollinators they host and have co-evolved with. Finally, he will run though the best of the numerous cultivars along with a variety of good companion plants for the native plant garden.

John is a longtime member of the Mount Lassen Chapter of CNPS, having served at various times on the board of directors and as horticultural chair. He is a regular presenter to CNPS chapters throughout the state. John is the author of *The Plant Lovers Guide to Salvias* published by Timber Press, owner of Canyon Creek Nursery and Design, his passion is building wildlife friendly gardens and photographing and enjoying the many creatures which visit them.
BUMPASS HELL
LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK
October 7
Saturday
Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwys 32/99) at 8:30 am. Bring lunch, water, sturdy shoes, hiking gear and money for ride-sharing. You are invited to join us for a field trip designed to introduce you to the most popular features of Lassen Volcanic National Park. See panoramic views of Lassen Peak, Brokeoff Mountain, the bubbling mudpots and steaming fumaroles of Bumpass Hell, and hopefully some late-season flowers still lingering due to the late snowmelt. We may be able to arrange a car shuttle that allows us to hike 4 miles down hill to the Kings Creek Picnic Area and parking lot. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: Marjorie McNairn 530 343-2397.

DEER CREEK TRAIL
LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST
October 28
Saturday
Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot (Hwys 32/99) at 8:30 am. Wear sturdy shoes. Bring lunch, water, and money for ride sharing. We will drive east on Hwy 32 about 38 miles to the trailhead at the Hwy 32 Deer Creek Bridge. Starting at 3200 ft elevation, this is a shaded and gradual 1.5 mile hike downstream to have lunch by the recently-completed renovation of the fish ladder. Big leaf maple, dogwood and black oaks should be in fall color along with Indian rhubarb, spice-bush, Sierra mint and California fuchsia. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: Woody Elliott 530 588-2555, woodyelliott@gmail.com

President’s Message
by WOODY ELLIOTT, President

Thank you to all who showed and told of their wonderful experiences with nature at September’s General Meeting. Our shared experiences and associated wisdom make us stronger and appreciative of our natural world.

To continue the vitality of our environment and our humble group, you, our membership must step up to positions of leadership. The Chapter’s Bylaws have 2-year term limits for Chapter officers except Treasurer with a 4-year term limit. Therefore, year 2018 will have a new President, Vice President, and some Members at Large. All offices are open for nominations by the Chapter’s Nomination Committee and all members at the November General Meeting when elections occur. Of course, positions as Committee Chairs and their Members are always available as approved by the Chapter’s Executive Board. Please contact me or other current Board Members to learn what they do. To learn the real deal, you can always attend Board Meetings that occur on the third Wednesday of most months.

State CNPS Chapter Council Meeting in Kenwood on Sept. 9th had a variety of informative discussions and presentations. Catie Bishop, our retiring Chapter Council Representative, will report on the specifics at https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilsept2017/ with links to specific reports. CNPS is alive for you at many levels.

Legislative Notes
by DAVID ANDERSON

CHAOS REIGNS

The regular session of the 2017 California Legislature ends at midnight, Friday, September 15. At this time (September 13) hundreds of bills are awaiting legislative action. With one exception, CNPS has not posted online its Report disclosing positions in support of or in opposition to 2017 bills. On September 9 CNPS emailed a Conservation Alert urging support of SB 249. It would repair, reduce and prevent Off Highway Vehicle damage to the environment. It currently is in the Assembly with the numerous other bills awaiting last minute action. Governor Brown has until October 15 to approve, veto or allow to go into effect without approval, bills in his possession after September 15. More info will follow.
On September 10, 2017, with a good turnout of 16 congenial participants, four vehicles traveled the Deer Creek canyon to Lassen Volcanic National Park for a walk from Kings Creek Falls Picnic Area to Cold Boiling Lake and on to Crumbaugh Lake. The road through the park was lined with yellow rabbit brush in full bloom.

The first area of exploration along Kings Creek and lower Kings Creek Meadow yielded a number of blooming species. Sierra alpine gentian (Gentiana newberryi var. tiogana) were scattered along the banks of Kings Creek, sometimes nestled under a small protective shrub, where they were less inclined to be trampled. This variety is white and grows along the length of the high Sierra as well as in the southeastern Klamath Range. The variety newberryi is light to deep blue with a similar shape and growth habit and is found in the Klamath Mountains in California and the Cascade Mountains of Oregon, but not in Lassen Park. Streambank saxifrage (Micranthes odontoloma) likes to grow through the small shrubs, also using them for protection. A single flower was shared with the group so each one could view the exquisite design using a lens of 10x magnification. To add color to the area, blue penstemon, yellow arnica and senecio were also blooming along the creek bank and in the meadow.

The attention shifted to trees as we reached the top of the rise above Cold Boiling Lake. In response to a question, we discussed the trees growing there, and how to tell the difference between a mountain hemlock (Tsuga mertensiana), a red fir (Abies magnifica) and lodgepole pine (Pinus contorta ssp. murrayana). The lodgepole appeared to compete in size with the signed “Champion Lodgepole Pine” we observed at Brady’s Camp.

Cold Boiling Lake was indeed boiling with carbon dioxide gas rising from far below to ruffle the surface. The southwest end of the lake is now a meadow filled with sedges and rushes. In the future one would expect the size of the lake to shrink as it is replaced by the meadow. We lunched at Crumbaugh Lake after traversing its meadow riddled with drainage channels. Primrose monkeyflower (Mimulus primuloides) was still blooming in the moist spots.

On the way home, one vehicle stopped at Bluff Falls just to the south of the park entrance where we identified a myriad of species. Some had mature fruit such as Shasta Lily (Lilium pardalinum ssp. shastense), twinberry (Lonicera involucrata) and California mountain-ash (Sorbus califomica), and some were blooming including the blue hiker’s fringed-gentian (Gentianopsis simplex) a strong population of white California grass-of-parnassus (Parnassia palustris) and one plant of pacific bleeding hearts (Dicentra formosa). It was a challenge to identify some species by leaves only, and we guessed at Sierra corydalis, and red elderberry.

Although there was much interest in plants and blooms, it appeared to this leader the high point of the day for many were the cookies!
E V E N T S

by JANNA LATHROP, Events Chair

FALL OUTREACH EVENTS

October 28 - 29
CHICO HORTICULTURE SOCIETY FLOWER
HOME & GARDEN SHOW at the SILVER DOLLAR FAIRGROUNDS

November 4
FARM CITY CELEBRATION HARVEST FESTIVAL
BIDWELL MANSION LAWN.

We plan to have an information table at both events. Can you help staff a 2 or 3 hour shift for either event? Please contact Janna at 228-0010. Your participation is very appreciated. THANK YOU

FRIENDS of the HERBARIUM

2017 WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS & REG FORMS

October 13, 2017
CELEBRATE CALIFORNIA’S FLORA!
7th ANNUAL FALL PHOTO EVENT  Submit the best native plant and native landscape images to be judged OR open. Prizes for Landscape, Close-up and photos taken during the Solar Eclipse. $10 fee / two entries. More info visit http://www.friendsofthechicostate-herbarium.com/

October 21, 2017
TREE IDENTIFICATION
LINNEA HANSON and EMILY MEIGS DOE  Learn to ID trees of California State University, Chico campus with leaves, bark, and reproductive structures. Also learn about tree biology, pruning and urban forest management. Register in advance. For information contact the Biology office at (530)898-5356 or ssholten@csuchico.edu

HOSPITALITY

by KARROLYNN YELLS, Hospitality Chair

People are needed to bring cookies or snacks for the December General Meeting. Please contact KarroLynn Yells at 530 534-3551 or karrolynny@att.net. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT.

These businesses support the goals of the CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEMBERS GET 10% DISCOUNT

Executive Board Meeting
October 18, 2017
TBA
ALL CNPS MEMBERS WELCOME!
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 kelloggi
- 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 glandula
- 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.

MEMBERSHIP MLC

If you have changed your . . .
- address, phone number or e-mail
- or leave temporarily
  please notify Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS
  Membership Chair, MERYL BOND at
  530 487-7312 or merylbond@sbcglobal.net

This will help eliminate returned Pipevines from the Post Office. Thank You

Keep up with MLC Activities on our website and Facebook

California Native Plant Society, Mount Lassen Chapter and LIKE US

mountlassen.cnps.org
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to affiliate with the Mount Lassen Chapter

Phyllis would say

Join Today!

Name ____________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________________________________
City _____________________________________________________________
State _______ Zip _________ Phone _________________________________
Email ____________________________________________________________

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

October
4 - General Meeting
7 - Bumpass Hell LVNP
18 - Ex Board Meeting
28 - Deer Creek Trail
28 - 29 - Home and Garden Show

November
1 - General Meeting
4 - Harvest Festival
15 - Ex Board Meeting