

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS

BOTANICAL LEAFLETS

VOLUME I, ISSUE 2 FALL 2008



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Northern California Botanists have had a busy spring and summer. We were able to award 7 scholarships for \$1000.00 each to botany students in Northern California for the 2008-2009 academic year. This is a great way to promote botanical study in Northern California. We also celebrated National Botanist Day with a field trip to low elevation serpentine on the Plumas National Forest in May.

Many of us have been busy dealing with the results of the early fires this year and especially the dry lightning

that occurred throughout the state in June. On the Plumas National Forest, about 100,000 acres burned in the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Feather River. Many of the shrubs and oaks are starting to sprout again. The new green growth of the bracken ferns has been quite a contrast to the black overstory of conifers and oaks.

NCB will not have a symposium in 2009 because of the California Native Plant Society conference in Sacramento this next January. We will, however, be donating money to the CNPS

conference committee to help with student scholarships. In addition, we will have a booth at the conference. We are looking for volunteers to help with the booth.

In January of 2010 we plan to have our third symposium. We are beginning to plan the symposium now so if you would like to volunteer to help, please let us know.

For more information, see related articles within this newsletter.

Have a great fall!

Linnea Hanson

2008-2009

OFFICERS

President: Linnea Hanson

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NATIONAL BOTANIST DAY EVENT MAY 23, 2008

In honor of the first National Botanist Day, NCB in cooperation with the Plumas National Forest sponsored a field trip to low elevation serpentine on May 23, 2008. National Botanist Day started here in Northern California as a way to celebrate botanists and all the hard work that we do. May 23rd was picked to celebrate Carolus Linnaeus's birthday. This is a grassroots effort that has

been endorsed by both NCB and by NBOT (a group of botanists that meet periodically in Redding several times a year).

We visited a serpentine outcrop on National Forest land in Magalia to view a MacNab cypress (*Callitropis macnabiana*) stand and restoration efforts to obliterate user-created trails and roads. We traveled to Sawmill Peak where *Eriogonum umbellatum* var. *ahartii* and

Packeria eurycephalus var. *lewis-rosei* occur on another serpentine outcrop. We discussed the prescribed burns that are planned at both sites and the monitoring that has been completed.

Thirty people attended the field day from state and federal government, colleges, private industry, and non-profit organizations. It was a wonderful day and everyone really enjoyed themselves.

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2008—2009 STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

This was the first year Northern California Botanists offered student research scholarships. We received 37 applications from a very strong candidate pool. These included 3 undergraduate students, 13 in a Master's degree program, and 21 in a PhD program. The schools represented include UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Santa Cruz, CSU Humboldt, CSU San Francisco, CSU Sonoma, CSU Sacramento, and Southern Illinois University.

The Scholarship Committee had a difficult time choosing the scholarship recipients. The breadth of subject matter and the quality of the research proposals were outstanding. The research proposals covered the most contemporary issues facing the field of botany today, climate change, fire dynamics,

invasives, and conservation. It is rewarding to know that such important work is being conducted in the academic community!

Northern California Botanists awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships. We congratulate these outstanding students and would like to thank an anonymous donor and our members who have helped to make these awards possible.

This year's recipients and the title of their research are:

Gavin Archbald (MS/San Francisco State University) "Evaluating the potential for spread of an invasive forb, *Limonium ramosissimum*, in San Francisco Bay salt marshes"

Christopher Dolanc (PhD/UC Davis) "Current and future vegetation change in Sierran subalpine due to changing climate"

Steven Johnston (MS/Sonoma State University) "Evolutionary ecology of a host-pathogen interaction in California woodlands"

Laura Saunders (MS/Sonoma State University) "The effects of mammalian herbivory on the growth and establishment of oaks"

Lisa Schile (PhD/UC Berkeley) "Tidal wetland vegetation response to climate change in the San Francisco Bay-Delta"

Marit Wilkerson (PhD/UC Davis) "Downsides to habitat corridors' potential for exotic plant invasion"

Cara Witte (MS/CSU Humboldt) "Floristic inventory of Horse Mtn., Board Camp Mtn., and surrounding areas, with special consideration to plants on serpentine outcrops"

STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS 2009-2010

Northern California Botanists are pleased to announce that they will be awarding student research scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Research scholarships will consist of \$1,000 awards to undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in a botany, plant ecology, or other plant-focused program as a full-time

student at one of northern California's colleges or universities. Junior and senior undergraduates and MS and PhD graduate students are eligible. Projects must be part of Independent Study, Thesis or Dissertation coursework.

Applications must be submitted to NCB by midnight on March 1, 2009. Awards will be announced in May 2009, with funding provided to students for the

2009-2010 academic year in August 2009.

Applications will be available in January. For more information and to download an application, visit the NCB webpage: <http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/norcalbot/index.htm>

CAN YOU NAME THIS PLANT?

Can you name this native plant of northern California, that is forming its aggregate fruit of achenes inside a leathery receptacle?



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

NCB is striving to become more actively engaged with its membership on several levels and is requesting your participation. Please consider your preferred level of participation (e.g., general volunteering to assist with NCB's annual symposia, helping with the NCB booth at the 2009 CNPS conference in Sacramento, specific volunteering to serve on NCB's action committees).

Please let us know if you would like to become more involved by contacting us at ncbotanists@gmail.com

- NCB is setting up an information booth at the upcoming CNPS conference in January 2009. One of the features will be a display of "Tools of the Trade". To date, we have modern tools used by field botanists, as well as a few historic items like a vasculum. We'd like more! If you have other historic items that you'd be willing to share, please contact Christine Hantelman at baji@chico.com
- NCB is looking for volunteers to represent the organization through attendance at NCB's booth at the CNPS 2009 Conference. If interested, please contact NCB at ncbotanists@gmail.com
- NCB is looking for webmaster help! If you have web expertise and would like to donate some time helping us maintain our web pages, please contact us at ncbotanists@gmail.com
- NCB is currently looking for volunteers to serve on the student stipend and student research scholarship review committees. Your participation will support the selection of students who receive financial assistance to attend the 2010 NCB annual symposium and will help select recipients of the 2009-2010 student research scholarships.

NCB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers and member-at-large, comprising the Board of Directors, were voted in by the ballots received in May 2008. The roster of board members as listed elsewhere in this newsletter, will serve a two-year term, ending in 2010. Most ballots voted for all members on the slate. There was one write-in. President Linnea Hanson has contacted him,

asking if he would like to volunteer to help in particular activities. Persons desiring to serve as directors of Northern California Botanists are urged to make their interest known to the Board so as to be included on the slate for voting by the entire membership in early 2010. Please contact Rob Schlising at rschlising@csuchico.edu

NON-PROFIT STATUS

In 2008, NCB obtained its non-profit status for both federal and state tax reporting. We are now a federally recognized 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization as of February 2007. Membership dues and donations to NCB are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NCB counts on its membership and donations to help fund its programs such as the student research scholarships. In addition, we are starting to plan for our next conference in January 2010. If your membership has expired, this will be the last newsletter sent to you. Your expiration date is listed on the address label of this newsletter. Please consider renewing and helping with a donation if possible to help fund next year's student research scholarships and other important NCB programs.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Federal Government is hiring botanists. Check <http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/> for current vacancies. Though not posted yet, the Anchorage Forestry Sciences Lab anticipates hiring both permanent seasonal and temporary positions for the 2009 field season to serve on the data collection team in Alaska. For more information contact: Connie Hubbard at chubbard@fs.fed.us or Ray Koleser at rkoleser@fs.fed.us.

Plant on page 3: *Calycanthus occidentalis*



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
BOTANISTS

c/o Chico State Herbarium
California State University Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0545

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone (optional) _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

_____ Individual \$25.00 _____ Student \$15.00

_____ Organization \$40.00

In addition, I would like to donate \$_____ to Northern California Botanists
to help fund NCB programs and student research scholarships.

Make checks payable to "Northern California Botanists" and mail to:

Northern California Botanists
c/o Chico State Herbarium
California State University, Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0545

NCB is a federally recognized 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

E-mail: ncbotanists@gmail.com

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