



JUNE 2016

The *Pipevine*

Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

General Meeting

SUMMER BREAK

until September 7, 2016

Annual Picnic



JUNE 11, 2016 Saturday 2 - 5 pm

JOIN US for our ANNUAL PICNIC at

LAKE OROVILLE VISITOR CENTER on Kelly Ridge

PLEASE BRING a dish to share, you might want to barbeque, your own utensils, drinks, and chairs.

Michael Hubbart, State Park Interpreter, will show us around the Visitor Center including its Viewing Tower above a nearly full Lake Oroville.

CONTACT Woody Elliott 530-588-2555, woodyelliott@gmail.com



BELDEN TO CHIPS CREEK

June 5
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 9 am. Call for alternate meeting locations. Bring lunch, water, hiking gear, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. This is an easy two mile walk along the Pacific Crest Trail from the Belden Rest Area to Chips Creek where we will stop for lunch. This part of the PCT has exposures of granitic bedrock that mark the northern boundary of the Sierra Nevada granite. The Feather River Canyon will be putting on a show of bush monkeyflower, lupine, woolly sunflower and others. Leader: Marjorie McNairn 530-343-2397.

FEATHER FALLS SCENIC AREA PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST

June 18
Saturday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) in time to leave at 8 am. Call for alternate meeting locations. Bring lunch, water, hiking gear, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Because of the shaded, well maintained trail we'll see many early summer flowers: campion, Clarkia, wild ginger, woolly sunflower. We will hike a moderate to strenuous 9 mile loop, elevation change: 2,460 to 1,600 ft, to include a knapsack lunch at the viewpoint opposite Feather Falls which has 640 feet vertical drop to rival waterfalls in Yosemite National Park. This average rainfall year has made Lake Oroville at the confluence of Fall Creek visible from the Falls Overlook. Leader: Woody Elliott, 530-588-2555, woodyelliott@gmail.com

PARADISE LAKE

June 26
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 9 am. Call for alternate meeting locations. Bring lunch, water, hiking gear, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Paradise Lake is about 3 miles north of Magalia, off Coutelenc Road. We'll follow the easy trail for about two to three miles round trip though mixed coniferous forest, riparian, and rock outcrops. Some plants grow only on the serpentine outcrop. A variety of nearly 300 different kinds of plants have been found along the trail. Leader: Marjorie McNairn, 530-343-2397.

ONION VALLEY PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST

July 2
Saturday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 8 am. Bring lunch, water, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Onion Valley (6500 ft) is off the east side of Quincy-La Porte Road, under the north side of Pilot Peak. We'll drive to Oroville on to La Porte and the paved Quincy-La Porte Road, which we'll follow for 8 miles to the turn off for Onion Valley. There are varied habitats, from forest and chaparral to riparian on the valley floor. For those interested in Pilot Peak (7457 ft), the expansive views and the Forest Service lookout (Nat Historic Lookout Register US 200, CA 73) there is access via a rough road for 1.5 miles and 0.5 miles of trail with a 500 ft ele gain. Call for alternate meeting locations. Leaders: Marjorie McNairn, 530-343-2397 and David Popp, 530-990-3703.

JONESVILLE MEADOWS WALK LASSEN NATIONAL FOREST

July 10
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 9 am. Bring lunch, water, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Wear foot gear suitable for slogging in marshy ground for short hikes. We'll drive northeast on Hwy 32 for 27 miles and then 12 miles north on paved county road to the Butte Meadows area where we begin our field trip at about 4800 ft ele. We expect to see a great variety of wetland flowers like camas, leopard lily, little elephant heads, Veronica, Tofieldia, and bog orchid. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: Janna Lathrop, 530-228-0010

President's Message

by WOODY ELLIOTT, President

OUR CHAPTER ROCKS (OR FLOWERS). *The Water-Wise and Habitat-Friendly Garden Tour* last May Day was well received by nearly 300 tourists at 21 garden locations throughout Chico. Melinda Teves and Ann Elliott ably produced this event with public outreach, online registration and coordination of enthusiastic gardeners and their garden hosts. The Alice Hecker Native Plant Garden at Chico Creek Nature Center was in especially fine shape. All should be very proud of what is becoming an anticipated annual occurrence.



WATCHFULNESS REWARDED. The Calif Dept of Parks & Recreation Commission met last April in Williams to review and accept the Preliminary General (Development) Plan for Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area and its CEQA Environmental Impact Report. After a park tour the previous day, the Commission adopted both documents with the proviso that an alternative

location be seriously considered for a RV campground proposed over a four-acre patch of restored riparian habitat, complete with sensitive Sacramento Valley red fox (<http://tinyurl.com/jxebvk4>). As the Chapter's Conservation Chair, I had brought all this to the attention of relevant authorities and scientific experts who then testified before the Commission and influenced their recommendation. The environmental community must remain vigilant, so the Dept of Parks & Recreation does the right thing regarding this vulnerable habitat.

WE ARE A PART OF THE WHOLE. The quarterly CNPS Chapter Council Meeting scheduled for June 4 - 5 (<http://www.cnps.org/cnps/admin/cc/index.php>) is at Sagehen Creek Field Station (<http://sagehen.berkeley.edu/>) in the rolling, wooded Sierra Nevada 30 minutes north of Truckee on Hwy 89. All CNPS members are welcome to attend and learn the goings-on of the State CNPS and the issues for which it advocates. So join Jim & Catie Bishop and Woody & Ann Elliott for one or both days with time out for discovering the beautiful, eastside forested drainages where wolverine(s) have roamed recently. Contact me about accommodations on and off site.

SUMMER IS HERE. To begin our summer adventures, the Chapter's ANNUAL PICNIC on Sat June 11 from 2 to 5 pm, will be at Lake Oroville Visitor Center on Kelly Ridge. It's a potluck with barbeque available for cooking your favorite outdoor fare to complement your favorite beverage including wine & beer. Michael Hubbartt, State Park Interpreter, will show us around the Visitor Center including its Viewing Tower above a nearly full Lake Oroville. In addition, Marjorie McNarin has compiled a varied and interesting collection of Summer Field Trips (see pages 2, 5, 6). So come along and take photos to share at next September's General Meeting. Hope to see you here and there!

Legislative Notes

by DAVID ANDERSON

DEDICATED CONSERVATIONISTS NEEDED

The upcoming primary and general elections should remind us that sound environmental protection laws are an essential part of our conservation program. To maintain such laws, and assure adequate funding of them, we need federal and state legislators who are dedicated conservationists. They must not only oppose outright repeal of environmental protection laws, but also resist the temptation to endorse exemptions or exclusions for pet development projects in their districts. The cumulative effect of exemptions for individual projects or types of projects is disastrous.

Saving our precious and endangered natural environment requires legislators who regard conservation as a priority, not something to be attended to when it is politically convenient. Your vote will help.



Styrax redivivus, Nomlaki Trail II, April 24, 2016
by Woody Elliott

Executive Board Meeting

SUMMER BREAK

Until August 17, 2016



HABITAT GARDEN TOUR ILLUSTRATES and INFORMS

by ANN ELLIOTT, Chair
Alice Hecker Native Plant Garden
Chico Creek Nature Center

left - Star attraction at Rob Schlising's garden, male valley carpenter bee, *Xylocopa veripuncta* on *Collinsia tinctoria*, May 1, 2016 by John Whittlesey

May 1 was our second garden tour in cooperation with the *Neighborhood Habitat Certification Program* of Altacal Audubon. This tour of 17 private and 3 public gardens during spring bloom brought interest from almost 300 registrants. With so many gardens to choose from, about 60 people visited each garden. That allowed each visitor to discuss the garden and techniques with the home owners and co-hosts. For more information about including native plants in your garden see the Horticulture tab at <http://mountlassen.cnps.org/>. For information about the Neighborhood Habitat Program see <http://www.altacal.org/neighborhood-habitat-certification-program/>.

Here is a sample of comments from garden owners, co-hosts, and visitors - ***What a great event! After all the prep-work, I was pleased when folks, even return visitors, enjoyed my efforts. Lots of happy curious visitors!! It was really fun to see the young and old gardeners looking for tips and inspiration. Visitors were interested in particular shrubs, including native ones; the flowers and insect visitors; the care and maintenance; and the watering system. A typical suburban home might see a reduction in water use of about 40%. This was a good partnership between Audubon and CNPS -- after all, birds and environment go hand in hand. I could see the wheels turning in many minds, hopefully leading to more Water-wise and Habitat-Friendly gardening in our area. I'll keep the flag for the next time my garden is on your tour.***

Alice Hecker NATIVE PLANT GARDEN

With an abundance of Pipevine Swallow-Tail butterfly larvae munching on the California pipevine plants in Alice's Garden, the CCNC staff have been touring their school and party groups there to watch the black and orange tipped caterpillars chew and grow. For visitors to the CCNC, it's "all about the animals." We would like to help CCNC staff develop more "animal" experiences in Alice's Garden, so young visitors can see more examples of fascinating animals relating to intriguing vegetated habitat.

CCNC Director Caitlin Reilly has invited us to nominate a member of Mount Lassen Chapter to the CCNC Board which meets quarterly to assist with programing and fundraising. CCNC's current mission is *Sharing the wonder of Bidwell Park*, where there is always more to explore. Contact Woody Elliott if you are interested in serving on the CCNC Board, a rewarding endeavor.

The garden got whipped into fine shape for the Habitat Garden Tour on May 1, but will need some TLC through the summer - mostly weeding and controlling any renegade growth of perennials. I have scheduled sessions on June 9, July 23, August 4 and 20, all beginning at 8 am and lasting no more than 2 hours. Please check the Chapter's website for any cancellations. Feel free to stop by Alice's Garden anytime to watch the plants flower, change leaf color throughout the seasons, and to pull weeds that you know are weeds. Weedy oak and cedar seedlings seem to appear constantly.

WORKDAYS

Alice Hecker NATIVE PLANT GARDEN

CHICO CREEK
NATURE CENTER
BIDWELL PARK

**June 9, July 23
August 4 & 20
8 - 10 am**

Contact

**ANN ELLIOTT
530-521-4402**

PLASKETT MEADOWS RECREATION AREA MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST

July 17
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) at 8:30 am. Bring lunch, water, hiking gear, sun/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Alternate meeting location is Willows Walmart. From Willows we'll follow Hwy 162 through Elk Creek to the end of Hwy 162 where it changes to Forest Rd F-7. It is 28 miles from the end of 162 to Plaskett Meadows. Plaskett Meadows Recreation Area consists of a small campground with mixed species of pine and fir. There are two small four-acre lakes. The meadows and surrounding area has long been an attraction because of its broad array of plant life. Leader: Anne-Lise Feenstra, 530-865-5254.

SQUARE LAKE MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST

July 30
Saturday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west parking lot (Hwy 99/32) in time to leave by 8 am. We'll drive to the foothill community of Paskenta and up Forest Roads M2 and M22 to the Ides Cove Trailhead (6700 ft ele). The last 20 miles is over a graveled road surface. The hike is a relatively level hike through Red Fir and White Pine forest to tiny Square Lake located in a north-facing glaciated cirque below the summit of South Yolla Bolly (8092 ft ele). The meadow above the lake has a myriad of wildflowers including the monument plant, *Swertia*. Bring lunch, water, sun/wind/insect protection, and money for ride sharing. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: John Whittlesey, 530-774-4955, johnccnd@gmail.com

... more summer



Field Trips

RARE PLANTS IN DRY VERNAL POOLS VINA PLAINS PRESERVE

August 6
Saturday

Meet at DeGarmo Park in Chico (take the entrance off of the Esplanade, just south of Shasta School) at 8 am. Bring hat, water, and wear strong shoes for walking on hard, lumpy soil for about 1 mile round trip in The Nature Conservancy's Vina Plains Preserve 16 miles north of Chico. We will visit two large vernal pools to see and smell the flowering endangered grasses *Orcuttia pilosa* and *Tuctoria greenei*, and the rare spurge, *Euphorbia hooverii* - the latter loaded with pollinating insects. Several native perennials (including *Asclepias fascicularis* and its attending insects) will be on display, as will an assortment of annual and perennial exotics that can make a dry pool appear green from a distance! Several native summer annuals should also be in flower in the surrounding grasslands. No restroom facilities at the Preserve. We will be back to DeGarmo before noon. Leader: Rob Schlising, 530 343-3411 email to reserve a copy of handout rschlising@csuchico.edu

Field Trips

HAT LAKE TO PARADISE MEADOW LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

August 14
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) to leave by 8:30 am. We'll drive Hwy 32 and 89 a distance of 86 miles to the trail head in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Paradise Meadows was one of botanist Vern Oswald's favorite places for flowers in the Park. The meadow, at 7200 ft has a glaciated head-wall for a scenic backdrop. Elephant head and gentian can be seen near Hat Lake, scarlet gilia along the first mile and satin lupine in timbered openings. Watch for columbine, lupine, monkshood, penstemon, Copeland's owl's clover and bog orchid in the meadow. From the trail head at Hat Lake the trail climbs 700 vertical ft over a distance of 1.4 miles to Paradise Meadow. Wear sturdy shoes. Take lunch, water, sun/insect protection, and money for ride sharing. Call for alternate meeting place. Leader: Woody Elliott, 530 588-2555, woodyelliott@gmail.com

RIDGE LAKES LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

August 28
Sunday

Meet at Chico Park & Ride, west lot (Hwy 99/32) to leave by 9 am. We'll drive Hwy 32 to 89, 74 miles to the Lassen Park southwest entrance Visitor Center for a rest stop. Ridge Lake trail head is at the Sulfur Works parking lot, 1 1/2 miles north of the Visitor Center. Experience an alpine high with minimum of effort. You will however, have to work because the elevation gain is 1000 ft over a mile's distance of trail. The trail is clean and easy to follow and we will make many stops to view flowers and view spectacular vistas. The two Ridge Lakes lie cupped in a stark high country bowl at the base of a bony ridge between two of Lassen Park's major peaks. Bring lunch, water, sun/wind/insect protection and money for ride sharing. Call for alternate meeting place. Leaders: Woody Elliott, 530 588-2555, woodyelliott@gmail.com and Anne-Lise Feenstra 530-865-5254.

FALL GENERAL MEETINGS


COOKIES needed for General Meetings Sept - Dec 2016

Please contact KarroLynn Yells at

530 534-3551 or karrolynnY@att.net

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FRIENDS of the HERBARIUM

June 9

BUTTE COUNTY BUTTERFLIES AND THEIR HOST PLANTS

by DON MILLER. This workshop will cover an introduction to the biology of butterflies, the major families of butterflies in Butte County and a representative survey of some local butterfly species and their habitats. Miller is a Biology professor and the Director/Curator of the Chico State Entomology Collection. Optional field trip on Friday June 10, to observe and identify butterflies in selected habitats in Butte County. Please register in advance.

June 25

INTRODUCTION TO THE WILLOWS OF CALIFORNIA

(SALICACEAE) by JOHN BAIR. This workshop will focus on the leaf, stem, and other vegetative growth characteristics while emphasizing the regional distributions of the different species of willows. Bair's interests include the effect of streamflow regulation on the Salicaceae. Please register in advance.

August 28

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERPENTINE ECOSYSTEM

by HUGH SAFFORD. Learn about the geology and ecology of serpentine areas in the northern Sierra Nevada. Details can be found on the Friends of the Herbarium website.

For more information about the workshops please contact:
www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium/eventsviewcalendar/

For more information about registration please contact the Biology office at 530 898-5356 or epurvis@csuchico.edu

MEMBERSHIP MLC

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please notify Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS
Membership Chair, MARJORIE MCNAIRN at
530 343-2397 or mlmcnairn@aol.com

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Officers & Chairs

(530)

ELECTED OFFICERS

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JUNE 2016 issue

JUNE 11



Pipevine



Phyllis would say

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mountlassen.cnps.org



Calendar 2016

June

- 5 - Belden to Chips Creek
- 11 - ANNUAL PICNIC Lake Oroville
- 18 - Feather Falls
- 26 - Paradise Lake

July

- 2 - Onion Valley
- 10 - Jonesville Meadows
- 17 - Plaskett Meadows
- 30 - Square Lake

August

- 6 - Vina Plains
- 14 - Paradise Meadow LVNP
- 17 - Executive Board Meeting
- 28 - Ridge Lakes LVNP

September

- 7 - General Meeting
- 21 - Executive Board Meeting