



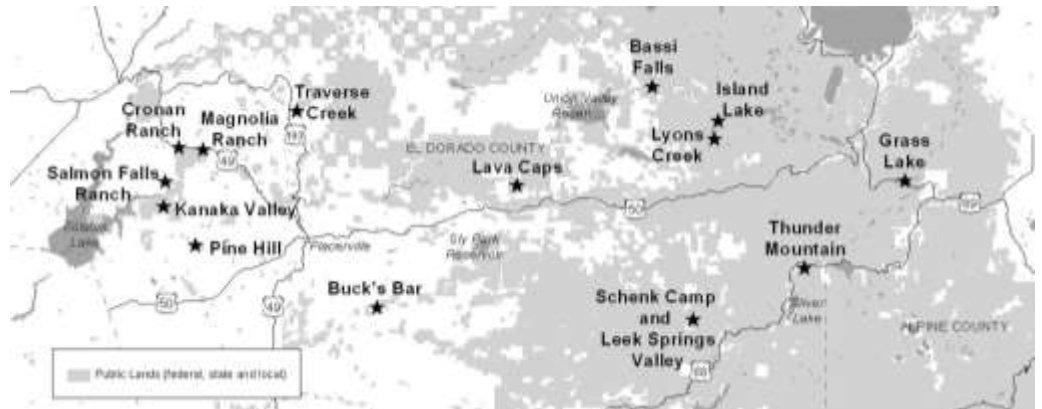
GOLD FIELD NOTES

EL DORADO CHAPTER ☉ CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ☉ May-June 2016

MAY 24 PROGRAM PLANT WALKS AROUND HERE

Join us for a virtual tour of wildflower adventures close to home. Chapter member Sue Britting will take us from the foothills to the crest of the Sierra Nevada while highlighting unique plant communities and spectacular landscapes in El Dorado County. This will be a slide tour of hikes that you can take throughout the year. A handout describing the trips will also be available. Sue Britting is a former president of the CNPS board of directors, and is passionate about the Sierra Nevada bioregion. **We hope this presentation inspires you to attend one of our chapter's upcoming plant walks that are described in our newsletters and on our website.**

This program will be held on Tuesday, May 24, at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville. The program is free to both members and the public.



May 21 (Saturday)

Plant walk.
Lava caps on Eldorado National Forest. See inside for details.

May 24 (Tuesday)

Chapter program.
Plant Walks Around Here. See inside for details.

May 24 (Tuesday)

Field trip.
Rare Moss Field Trip. Friends of the Chico State Herbarium, details at the Friends website:
www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/

June 9 (Thursday)

Workshop.
Butte County Butterflies and Their Host Plant Affinities. 9 am to 5 pm. Check Friends of the Chico Herbarium website for details.

June 18 (Saturday)

Plant walk.
King Fire – Recovering Forest. See inside for details.

June 25 (Saturday)

Workshop.
Introduction to the Willows of California (Salicaceae). 9 am to 5 pm. Check Friends of the Chico Herbarium website for details.

July 26 (Tuesday)

Chapter program.
The Blodgett Experiment. See inside for details..

Evening programs are held on the fourth Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. The program begins at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PLANT SALE

The first Saturday in April was a beautiful day and once again a terrific native plant sale hosted by the chapter. We measure the success of these events in many ways – the number of people who show up to talk about plants and maybe purchase some, the number of people who stop by our educational tables to ask questions and learn, the satisfaction of the native plant growers with whom we partner, and the opportunity to raise a little money to support the good works of the chapter. We hit all marks for the April 2016 sale with more people joining us than ever, and small growers who were glad to see folks walk away with exciting new plants and enthusiasm to “get ‘em in the ground.”

We can't host these events without the help of a crew of dedicated volunteers. Foremost among these folks is Shellie Perry, our Plant Sale Chair. Since 2001, Shellie (with behind the scenes support from her husband Steve) has calmly and efficiently organized our twice yearly sales. Her pleasant and welcoming demeanor with volunteers and growers has been key to the success of these events. After 15 years of dedication, Shellie has decided it is time to take a break and focus on some of the chapter's other pursuits. (In case you did not know, she is mad about botanizing and protecting rare plants!) We so very much appreciate her work on the plant sales all these years and look forward to her contributions in other areas. **THANK YOU SHELLIE!**

**NOW RECRUITING FOR A PLANT SALE
CHAIR—SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS**

GREAT GROWING TRIO

I love wandering around the nursery and combining plants for different garden styles. Inspired by the Mokulumne Wilderness, try this high sierra trio together in (mostly) sunny areas with decent drainage (will do fine in our foothill clay, rocky soils).

Big sage (*Artemisia tridentata*) is a sage-like scented, evergreen shrub from 3 to 5 feet tall and wide. Grayish-green silvery foliage adds year-round texture and structure to the garden. Prefers sunny areas with decent drainage. Useful to birds.

“*Artemisia*” comes from *Artemis*, the Roman goddess of chastity, hunting and the moon, also a botanist and a medical researcher who discovered several herbs. *Tridentata*: three-toothed, referring to the leaves. Aromatic oils (including camphor) contained in the leaves. For more on traditional uses, see Herbalpedia.com.

Sulphur buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*) is a low-growing evergreen perennial with profuse brilliant yellow flowers in spring through summer. Its rounded greyish-green leaves are a lovely contrast to its



Photos: Mahala Guggino

bloom’s radiant pop of color. It prefers sunny areas with decent drainage. Useful to butterflies & other pollinators. Some traditional uses have been noted.

Eriogonum is derived from Greek *erion* (wool) and *gonu* (jointed/kneed) for its sometimes swollen jointed stems covered with small hairs. *Umbellatum*: with umbels, for its umbrella-shaped flower clusters.

Western blue flax (*Linum lewisii*) is a long, arching perennial around two feet tall in

flower, striking cornflower blue 5-petaled flowers in spring to early summer complement its blue-green foliage. This lovely plant adds seasonal textural interest. Trim to 4” in fall. It self-sows well in drier soil.

Linum (Greek for flax) are cultivated for their seed and fiber. *Lewisii*: Captain Merriweather Lewis, famous western explorer. This plant is good for the birds and bees.

Mahala Guggino
Education & Outreach Chair
and owner of Flourish

HELPING A RARE SEDGE AT TRAVERSE CREEK

A gang of chapter weed whackers went to Traverse Creek Special Interest Area in February to cut back blackberries where the rare sedge, *Carex crytostachya*, was identified last summer by members of our group. We stomped and “pruned” the blackberries back from the water’s edge and off of the trees and shrubs in the vicinity of the sedge. It was a beautiful day to endeavor in the great out-of-doors.

Saw the sedge! (we think) and discovered several more across the creek. Though I love to pick and eat from the rampant blackberries, I am pleased that there will be less shade and more habitat for the sedge - and the oaks, the bay trees, the wild roses, the soap root, the willow, the red berry. Thank you Valerie, Mike, Annie, Bill, Marty, Shellie, Chelsea, and Steve (all pictured at right). It was good work.



Photo: Tal Blackburn

Tal Blackburn

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

May 21 (Saturday)

Lava Caps – Eldorado National Forest

One or two lava caps on the Eldorado National Forest (southern El Dorado County). Exact destination and length of walk still to be determined. Contact Shellie Perry (seperry55@comcast.net) for details.

June 18 (Saturday)

King Fire – Recovering Forest

Recently burned forested area in the Rubicon River drainage, in northern El Dorado County. We will be visiting newly discovered lava caps and areas of recovering forest. Contact Shellie Perry (seperry55@comcast.net) for details.

NEW CHAPTER WEBSITE – CHECK IT OUT!

If you have recently visited our chapter website (eldoradocnps.org), you may have noticed things look a little different! In April, the chapter launched a redesigned website hosted by the state CNPS hosting program for chapter websites. The updated website uses the new CNPS chapter template, and we have added content specifically tailored to the needs of our El Dorado Chapter members.

You will find information about our general meetings and field trips, as well as announcements about special events such as plant sales, weed pulls, rare plant treasure hunts, and educational opportunities. Our Resources section will have presentations from our meetings, documents, a list of books available for purchase, and links to other websites of interest to the native plant community.

We always have our current newsletter available, as well as an archive of our newsletters going back to 2010. Our Conservation section will keep you abreast of the latest news about native plant conser-

vation, restoration, and invasive plants. Gardening with Native Plants is a popular section of our website, with resources for finding and successfully growing native plants in your own garden.

People new to the El Dorado Chapter can find out about our history since becoming a chapter in 1993, as well as a description of the ecology of the county, and the reason a great diversity of native plants are found here. We are currently working on a new mapping system that will help you find special Plant Places to view those native plants. We hope you will stop by the website regularly to keep abreast of current opportunities and information offered by the El Dorado Chapter.

*Karen Buckland
Webmaster*

Editor's note: A huge round of applause goes to Karen Buckland for organizing and developing the new website. We were lucky to have her help along with the work of the Website Design Committee (Alice, Trevor, and Sue) and several authors of the new content to launch the new platform and design.

CALL TO MEMBERS: PROMOTING NATIVE PLANTS WITH YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

Help us promote native plants with your beautiful photos! The El Dorado Chapter of CNPS is undertaking a number of projects that require photographs of plants and habitats around the area. These projects include:

New Notecards, to be produced for chapter fundraising. 12-15 high quality photographs are needed.

Posters for educational use, including meetings, library displays, and plant sales; again, approximately 12 to 15 high-quality photographs are needed.

Website photos to help our new redesigned site feature the plants, vegetation and specific wildflower localities of El Dorado County; photographs of as many species, vegetation types and localities as possible are needed.

Please send photographs as an attachment to the membership secretary at: eldoradocnpsphotos@gmail.com

Larger numbers may be supplied on CD, memory stick (flash drive) or any other convenient means. Thank you!

JULY 26 PROGRAM

THE BLODGETT EXPERIMENT

As the UC Center for Forestry's main research property, Blodgett Forest has the unique challenge of being managed for a multitude of objectives. At its core these objectives are to facilitate research and secondly to demonstrate sustained forest management. In order to achieve these goals a forest-wide experiment of sorts was initiated to examine the impacts of forest management alternatives. We will examine what the results of this experiment have been on everything from species diversity to timber production and how they are helping shape our management efforts moving into an uncertain future?

Check website for updates. This program will be held on Tuesday, July 26, at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville. The program is free to both members and the public.



VOLUNTEER NEEDED: PLANT SALE CHAIR

Do you enjoy working with plants and like to organize events? We are looking for a Plant Sale Chair to coordinate our twice yearly native plant sales. These yearly events come with a reliable team of volunteers to carry out various jobs. What we need is someone willing to oversee the work of the volunteers and coordinate the growers. If you would be interested in helping out, contact Alice Cantelow (alicecantelow@gmail.com; (530) 622-5306) to discuss the position.



El Dorado Chapter
 California Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 1948
 Placerville, CA 95667

May-June 2016

For Updates Visit Us on the Web
www.eldoradoCNPS.org and



CALIFORNIA
 NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO THE
 PRESERVATION OF
 CALIFORNIA'S NATIVE FLORA

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide nonprofit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The mission of the Society is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes the quarterly journal, *Fremontia*, the quarterly *Bulletin*, which gives statewide news and announcements of Society activities and conservation issues, and the chapter newsletter *Gold Field Notes*. To join, call our main office in Sacramento, (916) 447-2677, or visit www.cnps.org to join online.

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PRESIDENT	Alice Cantelow	(530)622-5306	alicecantelow@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	Debra Ayres	(530) 672-9976	drayres@ucdavis.edu
SECRETARY	Christie Johnson		mwdesigns@suttercreek.com
TREASURER	Cindy Podsiadlo	(530) 642-0648	clpodsiadlo@yahoo.com
BOOKS & POSTERS	Bonnie East	(530) 417-1086	redshldr.1002@yahoo.com
CLARK YOUTH FUND PROGRAM	Jinnah Benn	(916) 508-2982	jinnahbean@yahoo.com
CONSERVATION	Sue Britting	(530) 295-8210	britting@earthlink.net
EDUCATION & OUTREACH			
	Mahala Guggino		mahala@flourishontheweb.com
Field Trips	Diane Cornwall	(530) 888-1404	dancingwildflowers@me.com
HOSPITALITY	Marty Oberlander	(530) 333-1536	mober44@gmail.com
	Pat Guge	(530) 620-6583	pguge@yahoo.com
INVASIVE EXOTICS	Mike Taylor	(530) 626-1196	m.taylor@live.com
RARE PLANTS	Annie Walker	(530) 626-3678	agastache@att.net
MEMBERSHIP	Judith Whiffin	(530) 622-7945	deltajud@gmail.com
PLANT SALES	Shellie Perry	(530) 644-6335	seperry55@comcast.net
PROGRAMS	Debra Ayres	(530) 672-9976	drayres@ucdavis.edu
WRIGHTS LAKE WILDFLOWER WALKS			
	Rich Wade	(530) 644-7210	rwade@spi-ind.com
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS			
	Tripp Mikich	(530) 748-9365	trippdmnh@yahoo.com
WEB MASTER	Karen Buckland	(530) 333-1534	kabuckland@gmail.com
NEWSLETTER	Sue Britting	(530) 295-8210	britting@earthlink.net