

Redbud Review

Newsletter of the Redbud Chapter-Nevada and Placer Counties
California Native Plant Society
Fall 2010

Field Trips

Wildflowers of Fall

September 11 (Saturday)—Meet at Rood Center at 9:00 AM or 10:15 AM at the junction

Well, yes, there are some late bloomers. Please join us for a trip up Pole Creek to hopefully view them. We will be hiking a couple of miles cross-country into the headwaters of Pole Creek. Although there is no trail, it is a fairly easy walk.

If you wish to join us near the trailhead, we will meet you at the junction of Highway 89 between Truckee and Tahoe City, and the unnamed road into Pole Creek. From Tahoe City it is 9.5 miles to this junction. If you pass the Goose Meadows campground, you have gone too far. From Truckee, head for Squaw Valley and watch for the Goose Meadows campground. The unnamed road into Pole Creek is on the right, 1.5 miles beyond the campground. If you see the road into Squaw Valley, you have gone too far. From both directions, you will see a sign with a picture of a cross-country skier just before the unnamed road. Park at the junction of Highway 89 and this unnamed road into Pole Creek. You will see a forest service map posted about 100 feet from the junction. At this point we will leave behind any cars with low clearance and will shuttle people up to the trailhead. The dirt road is narrow and rutted, but should be passable by all but the most “clearance impaired” cars.

... more field trips on next page

Evening Programs

Fungi of the Sierra Nevada

Dan Nicholson, November 29 (Monday) at 7:30 PM

Dan Nicholson is a naturalist and specialist on local fungi. He has been a Fungus Foray leader for the Yuba Watershed Institute for several years. Dan is an experienced speaker and gives entertaining and informative programs. This evening program will be held at the Madelyn Helling Library Community Room in Nevada City. See page 2 for directions and map.

There will also be an opportunity for you to vote for a new President or Co-Presidents at this meeting. Please join us for an evening that you won't forget!

Fall Plant Sale

*September 18 (Saturday), 9:30AM-1:30PM
Sierra College, Grass Valley Campus*

New this Year: Early 8:30 admission for members only! Buy a membership at the door and get in early. Free CNPS tote bag for all new members.

Best selection of California native plants anywhere in Placer or Nevada Counties!

More info: www.redbud-cnps.org

Field trips (continued)

Mosses and Liverworts (Bryophytes)

October 16 (Saturday)—Meet at the Rood Center at 8:00 AM. Leader: Carl Wishner

Meet in Nevada City at the Rood Center, off Highway 49, in front of the main building, for a short carpool to an undetermined field location. Carl will present an introduction to the life history, morphology, and classification of bryophytes, and field identification of local genera and species. His experience spans 35 years as a professional consultant, broadly trained as a field biologist, including botany, mycology, bryology, zoology and ecology. Persons of all ages and levels of botanical experience are invited to attend. We plan to return to the Rood Center by 3:00 PM. Bring lunch and water. A hand lens is highly recommended. Contact Carl at cbwishner@sbcglobal.net with any questions, or for recommendation on purchasing a good hand lens. We should be back at our cars by 3:00 PM.

Mushroom Walk

November 21 (Sunday)—Meet at the Rood Center at 1:00 PM

Mushrooms are the visible parts of fungi. Inside each mushroom, nuclear fusion (sex) occurs, leading to the production of spores. Mushrooms are highly varied, often beautiful, sometimes gross, and always exciting to find. Since there is no mycological society here, we will include a Mushroom Walk on our field trip calendar. Since it is hard to predict where mushrooms will be abundant, we will meet at the Rood Center and proceed to the best area.

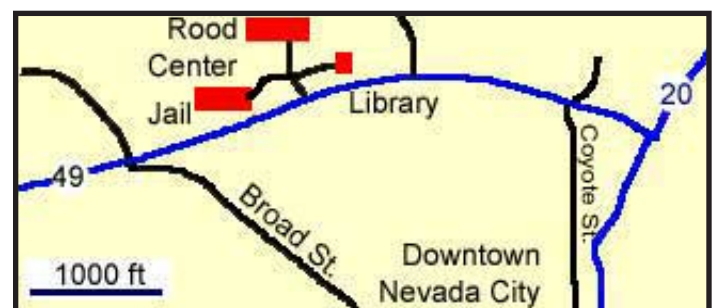
More Field Trip Information . . .

All of our field trips are open to the public and are free of charge. Bring water, lunch/snack, hand lens, wildflower book, and sun protection and/or rain gear, as needed. Children are warmly welcomed, but please arm them with a whistle! No pets are allowed on any of our field trips. We suggest ride sharing, as parking space at most trailheads is limited. We also suggest that you contribute some money to the driver for gas -- perhaps \$5 for less than 40 miles round-trip, and \$10 for more than 40 miles round-trip... Unless stated otherwise, our trips are easy, as we usually travel very slowly and stop to view, identify, talk about, and enjoy each plant or fungus species. Most of our trips are led by more than one botanist.

For most of our trips we will meet at the Rood Center on Highway 49 in Nevada City, in front of the main building -- NOT at the library. We will then form car pools and drive to the trailhead. In many cases you can meet us at the trailhead if this is more convenient for you.

Our newly published book *Wildflowers of Nevada and Placer Counties, California* will be available for purchase at the meeting place before each field trip. Retail price is \$29.95 plus tax; Redbud Chapter members (including brand new ones) are entitled to a 15% discount. We can accept cash and checks. This book will be very helpful on all of our field trips!

The field trip will be canceled if heavy rain (or snow) is predicted. If in doubt, call 530-265-4173 after 7AM on the morning of the trip for a recorded message.



Discoveries 2010

New locations in Placer County for two California endangered species

By Karen Callahan, Plant Science Chair

In July, while hiking along a recreation trail in the Foresthill area of Placer County, CNPS members, John Krogsrud and Ernie Riley were surprised to see Stebbins' morning-glory, *Calystegia stebbinsii*, in full bloom. This plant was only known to grow in El Dorado County and Nevada County. John didn't quite believe what he and Ernie had found. A few days later John took Cyndi Brinkhurst and I to Foresthill to share this discovery. Yes, there were dozens of the Stebbins' morning-glory plants and Cyndi recognized another rare, federally listed species at the site, Layne's butterwort, *Senecio layneae* (now called *Packera layneae*).

Kathy also sent a specimen to California Academy for verification. Debra Tock of Cal Academy identified the specimen as *Packera layneae* noting that the species can have light tomentum as this one does.

Because these plants are growing on Tahoe National Forest land, I contacted Forest Service botanists, Kathy Van Zuuk and Karen Wiese. The three of us went back to the site, where Kathy and Karen found a bit of shade under a small pine in the 90-degree heat and keyed out the Layne's butterwort and several more flowering plants of the area. We drove farther along the dirt road and found even more Stebbins' morning-glory plants in the rocky serpentine environment. According to Kathy, these are the first federally listed rare and endangered species found on Tahoe National Forest system lands. The serpentine soils at this site also have known occurrences of Sanborn's onion, *Allium sanbornii* var. *congdonii*.

The leaves of the Foresthill morning-glories have a somewhat different arrangement than the typical Stebbins' morning-glory. Kathy sent a specimen to Dr. R. K. Brummit, the world expert on the morning-glory

family, at Kew Royal Botanical Gardens in England. This plant was named for G. Ledyard Stebbins, a renowned evolutionary biologist, who served as the first president of CNPS and discovered several Sierra Nevada species including this morning-glory.

More Rare Plant Treasure Hunts in 2010

Sierra bluegrass, *Poa sierrae*, was very recently added to the *CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants*. Old records reported this species grows along Iowa Hill Road and near Dutch Flat in Placer County. Cyndi Brinkhurst and I took up the challenge of re-visiting these locations. Despite many hours of searching, we did not find any Sierra bluegrass. It is a perennial dioecious grass with purplish buds on its roots. The original reports were written before GPS units and older herbarium collections are often vague about locations. We did find a beautiful group of bright pink-flowered *Clarkia biloba* ssp. *brandegeae* along the road plus many wildflowers so the trips weren't a complete loss.

A new location for the rare species, Stebbins' phacelia, *Phacelia stebbinsii*, was found in the South Yuba River canyon at about 2,000 foot elevation along a rocky trail. The plants were first seen last year and we went back to check on their exact location. Thanks to the help of Roger McGehee and Julie Carville on this treasure hunt, we reported the find to Dan Lubin, botanist for California State Parks. Roger needed his microscope to identify this small, annual *Phacelia*.

Lawrence Janeway and Barb Castro of the California State University, Chico, Herbarium, traveled to the Grass Valley area to collect specimens of an uncommon sedge or carex species. This short, tufted carex has been classified as *Carex brainerdii*, but Lawrence believes that these plants are different. In some places, these plants form a ground cover under our local McNab cypress groves. Barb and Lawrence collected this sedge to send to a group of specialists who are working on a new book on the genus *Carex* in California. For Bill Wilson, Cyndi

Help needed with conservation issues!

Volunteers are needed to read local newspapers and to listen to local radio news. You can help with the conservation of native plants in Placer and Nevada County by keeping track of the many activities and projects that effect our environment. We need someone to be our watchdog! Call Karen Callahan at 530-272-5532 or David Magney at 805-646-1545 for more information.

continued on next page

Brinkhurst, and I, it was interesting to observe Lawrence collecting in the field. He carefully removed the dirt from the tough roots, recorded information about the locations, and arranged the plants on sheets of newspaper to go into the plant press.

CNPS statewide is encouraging our members to join Rare Plant Treasure Hunts. Many rare plant locations have not been visited for over 20 years. Fieldwork and reporting are essential for the accuracy of the *CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants*. At “www.cnps.org” you will find the on-line version of the *Inventory* and information about the Treasure Hunts.

Wild Currants at the Fall Plant Sale

by Julie Carville

Our Redbud Plant Sale this year, will be on Saturday, September 18th, and our featured plants will be the lovely, deciduous shrubs of the currants and gooseberries. These easily grown, attractive shrubs do well in woodland gardens in our foothill habitat. They bloom in spring in pinks, reds, whites, or yellows with flowers that dangle from graceful branches, as tiny, single, red fuchsia-like flowers along the branches, or as clusters of small flowers that dangle in long clusters from branch tips. These moderate sized shrubs (5-8 feet tall) form a lovely backdrop for spring blooming perennials and annuals, or as a summer backdrop of lush green leaves. Their tubular flowers attract hummingbirds and their fruits will draw birds into your garden. They are easy to grow and happily grow in acid or neutral soils, if you give them reasonably good drainage and moderate water, and they aren't bothered by pests. They prefer part shade in our hot summer climate and best of all, in the various gardens that I've grown them, from Tahoe to the foothills, they were ignored by the deer. We'll be offering various species to choose from, including our mountain pink currant, which has been a favorite of mine over the last 30 years. Because of their natural and gentle beauty in spring, summer and fall, they are a wonderful addition to any native garden.

BriarPatch Native Plant Demonstration Garden

Vision:

- To showcase locally native plants suitable for gardens and landscapes.
- A place for wildflower and native plant field trips and other educational events.
- To use the plants in the garden as mother stock for cuttings and seed to propagate local genotype plants for Redbud Chapter's semiannual native plant sales

Wish List

The Steering Committee is looking for 1 or 2 more members to implement and facilitate the vision of the garden. Currently the committee of Nancy Gilbert, Cindy Rubin and Cyndi Brinkhurst meet every month, during the daytime, for an hour and a half. If you want to volunteer more in the garden you may qualify for the BriarPatch Volunteer Discount!

We are planning for a shade structure, picnic site, information area and benches to be added to the garden. Are you a woodworker who can build and donate a picnic table or bench for the public to see and enjoy your creativeness?

Please call Cyndi at 530 274-1924 to offer your help!

Welcome New Redbud Members

Holly McClure	Joan Landecker
Byron Kermeen	Mike Hatherly
Barbara Kermeen	DeDe Hatherly
Chip Carman	Donna McGaughlin
Janet Thew	Diane Arnell
Nancy Davis	Lani Houck
Leslie Nolan	Linda Luntsford
Gina Losier	Todd Bouchier
	Sara McBee

And many thanks to our loyal
renewing members!

Redbud Board Meetings

Please mark your calendars with the following dates of our next Board meetings: Wednesday, October 27 in Placer County, and Wednesday, January 26, in Nevada County. All Board members will be notified as to the exact locations and times. Other interested persons can call Roger (265-4173) or Bill (265-8040) for the exact locations and times.

We Need A Treasurer!

There are several Board positions available, but the one that most needs to be filled is that of Treasurer. You may make the position as simple or as complex as you wish, but we need someone to make deposits, write checks, keep a record of both on Quickbooks, and send quarterly sales tax reports to the state office. Training is available.

Redbud Chapter, California Native Plant Society Board of Directors

Officers

Co-President	Bill Wilson (wilsonb@mjc.edu) 530-265-8040
Co-President	Roger McGehee (rogm@sbcglobal.net) 530-265-4173
Vice President	Julie Carville (mtngypsy1@SBCglobal.net) 530-265-4741
Treasurer	OPEN
Secretary	Luci Wilson (luciw@earthlink.net) 530-574-2046
Newsletter Editor	Brad Carter (bradcarter@aol.com) 530-271-5790

Committee Chairs

Membership Co-Chair	Joan Jernegan (jernegj@saccourt.com) 916-874-5619(W)
Membership Co-Chair	Sandy Kewman(skewman@theunion.net) 530-272-3736
Program Chair	OPEN
Field Trips Chair	Roger McGehee (rogm@sbcglobal.net) 530-265-4173
Plant Sale/Events Co-Chairs	
-Spring	Chet Blackburn (chetblackburn@yahoo.com) 530-885-0201
-Fall	OPEN
Publicity Chair	OPEN
Education Chair	Nancy Gilbert (nancyames@accessbee.com) 530-272-4775
Plant Science Co-Chairs	
-Rare Plants Specialist	Karen Callahan (penstemon@nccn.net) 530-272-5532
-Invasive Plants Specialist	Dan Lubin (dlubin@parks.ca.gov) 530-272-0298
Horticulture Chair	OPEN
Conservation Chair	David Magney (david@magney.org) 805-646-1545
Restoration Co-Chairs	
	Don Harkin (harkindon@yahoo.com) 530-265-4048
	Karen Wiese (kwildoak@aol.com) 530-346-7131
Publications Chair	OPEN
Webmaster	Bill Wilson (wilsonb@mjc.edu) 530-265-8040
Chapter Council Delegate	Joan Jernegan (jernegj@saccourt.com) 916-874-5619(W)
Wildflower Book Project	
-Editorial Committee	Chet Blackburn (chetblackburn@yahoo.com) 530-885-0201
-Marketing Committee	OPEN
Hospitality Chair	OPEN

More Board Positions Open

We also need to fill the other open Board positions. If you would like to share your time and talent with Redbud Chapter, please look over the list of Board members and consider filling an open position.

Redbud Chapter

Calendar of Coming Events

September 11 (Saturday): Wildflowers of Fall field trip

September 18 (Saturday): Fall Plant Sale at Sierra College, Grass Valley campus

October 16 (Saturday): Mosses and Liverworts field trip with Carl Wishner

October 27 (Wednesday): Board of Directors meeting

November 21 (Sunday): Mushroom walk

November 29 (Monday): Fungi of the Sierra Nevada-evening program

January 26 (Wednesday): Board of Directors meeting

Election of Officers

At the November 29 evening program, *Fungi of the Sierra Nevada*, an election will be held for a new President or Co-Presidents. If you are interested in running, or if you want to nominate someone (after obtaining their permission), please contact any member of the Board. Please consider filling this important position.

www.redbud-cnps.org

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