

Registration Packet

Bristlecone Chapter, California Native Plant Society
Eastern Sierra Spring Sojourn
Friday-Sunday, May 31 through June 2, 2013
Sierra Adventure Center at Bernasconi Ranch, Big Pine, California

Dear Plant Enthusiast:

March, 2013

The Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS, invites you to attend our eighth Sierra Spring Sojourn, a flower-filled weekend of field trips, slide programs and conversation in our extraordinary eastern Sierra region. Meals, dorms, or camping facilities will be provided. We hope you'll join us!

Field Trips

You will have four to five field trips to choose from on both Saturday (full day trips) and Sunday (half day trips). These trips will cover much of the diversity of our area in and around the Owens Valley, including the east slope of the Sierra Nevada and the White-Inyo Mountains. On Friday evening after registering, you'll find out where all of the field trips are going and you'll be able to make your selections then (see *Schedule of Events* on page 3). We try to keep the group for each trip relatively small so everyone, including the leaders, has a good experience. Field trip sign-ups will be on a "first come—first served" basis with the number of participants for each trip strictly limited to 15. Trip locations will depend upon weather this winter and spring, where the flowers are, and which roads are open. Please fill up your car with gas Friday night before you arrive to make sure you have enough gas for the field trips.

Evening Programs

On Friday evening we will be treated to a slide show of our local flora. On Saturday evening Steve Matson will speak about Baker Creek Meadows. Steve is an "amateur" botanist for the last 25 years in the Tahoe area and Eastern Sierras and former President of the Tahoe Chapter of CNPS. He has been a field trip leader for the last two decades in the Tahoe region. He is now a part-time resident of Big Pine. He is widely recognized for his photo-documentation of the flora of Eastern California and western Nevada. (Examples online at the CalPhotos website.)

His talk is a brief overview of botanical adventures he has had in and around Big Pine over the last 5 years. It is titled, naturally, "Botanizing Big Pine." Steve says, "Learning a new flora is a quest I find incredibly exciting and I find the Eastern Sierra home to not only a remarkable flora but a magnificent landscape as well as home to others who share a similar fascination of the natural world."

What a great weekend we hope to have!

Facilities

We will be using the facilities of The Sierra Adventure Center at Bernasconi Ranch, located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains west of Big Pine at an elevation of about 5000 feet (see directions below). Sleeping accommodations will be dorm-style with cots. Bathrooms and showers are available in a separate building. The Sierra Adventure center also has cabins that sleep six to twelve people, which are available at an additional cost. Contact Edie Trimmer at (801) 597-2104 after April 1 if you are interested in this option. For more information on the site, you can visit www.sierraadventurecenter.org.

Facilities (continued)

In lieu of dorms, participants can use their own RVs or erect tents on the grounds. Self-contained units are most desirable; there are no hookups. Dump facilities are available in Big Pine and at a State highway rest area about 20 miles to the south at Division Creek. Campers may use the camp washroom facilities.

Directions to the Sierra Adventure Center

From Highway 395 in Big Pine, turn west onto Crocker Street (gas stations on both corners.) Drive 1½ miles and turn right on Sugarloaf Road. Proceed approximately 1 mile to The Sierra Adventure Center at Bernasconi Ranch. Watch for signs. The Dining Room is on the left side of Sugarloaf Road on a loop driveway. Check in at the Dining Room for registration and directions to RV parking and cabins.

Meals

Drinks and snacks will be available during Friday registration until 9 PM. People are welcome to bring their own beverages for an informal social hour. The first meal to be provided will be Saturday breakfast. Food and supplies for making our own sack lunches will be furnished at breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. A catered dinner will be served on Saturday, starting with a social hour.

For those who are looking for a meal on Friday or Sunday evening, you can check the local chambers of commerce at www.lonepinechamber.org, www.independence-ca.com, or www.bishopvisitor.com. There are two restaurants in nearby Big Pine: The Country Kitchen and Rossi's Steak and Pasta. You can also get sandwiches or carry-out at Carroll's Market or the three gas stations in town.

Registration

Pre-registration is required. Please complete and send the enclosed registration form with your check or money order made out to "CNPS Bristlecone Chapter" to:
Edie Trimmer, PO Box 13 Big Pine, CA 93513

Registration forms must be received by April 29, 2013. Participation is limited, so enroll early to avoid disappointment. Your registration is not complete until you receive a confirming email message or postcard from us. In the event that we have already filled all the spots when we get your form, we will put you on a waiting list, notify you, and return your check if we are eventually unable to accommodate you.

For insurance purposes, ***you must be a member of California Native Plant Society*** to participate in the Spring Sojourn. Memberships can be purchased at the time of registration.

If you have any questions you can reach Edie Trimmer (email: edieann@xmission.com), Kathy Duvall at 760-387-2122 (email: kduvall@cebridge.net) or Sue Weis at 760-873-3485 (email: sueweis@aol.com).

Check-in will be on Friday evening, May 31, starting at 6:00 PM in the Dining Room.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Bristlecone Chapter, California Native Plant Society
Eastern Sierra Spring Sojourn
Friday-Sunday, May 31-June 2, 2013
Sierra Adventure Center at Bernasconi Ranch, Big Pine, California

FRIDAY EVENING, May 31

Registration, sleeping assignments & field trip sign-ups	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Social hour (wine, beer and other alcoholic beverages welcome)	
Wildflower slide show	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

SATURDAY, June 1

Morning	
Breakfast served	7:00 AM - 7:45 AM
Field trips	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Evening	
Social hour	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Dinner	6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Program	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

SUNDAY, June 2

Morning	
Breakfast served	7:00 AM - 7:45 AM
Field trips	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Please be sure that your car is filled with gas and ready to go by 8:00 AM on Saturday

SUGGESTED PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Robe (toilets & showers are detached from bunk houses), toiletries, washcloths, towels, etc.
- Clothing for any kind of weather (the weather in late May is unpredictable) Wool hat and mittens, too? It could even rain! Don't forget a good sun hat and sunglasses for desert heat.
- Sturdy footwear and a walking stick if desired
- Water bottle for field trips.
- Sunscreen; Bug repellent
- Thermarest (or other sleeping pad) for cots
- Chargers for electronic gadgets
- Field guides, plant keys, hand lens, camera, notepad, binoculars and other "naturalist" gear

Please, no pets.

