



**NEXT CHAPTER BOARD MEETING:**

Tuesday March 23, at 7:00 pm at Doris Fredendalls residence in Big Pine.

**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:**

Wednesday March 30, at 7:30 at the Sierra Baptist Church in Independence.

Our hosted speaker at the March meeting will be Jim Roberts who will talk about the many attributes of native plants; their propagation, seed germination, selection for gardens, rehabilitation and much more. Jim is a horticulturist and part owner of Sierra Gardens Nursery in Bishop.

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

FREMONTIA, CNPS January issue is worth an in depth reading by all of us. The focus is on CEQA, the California Environmental Quality Act, as the most important piece of legislation for the protection of endangered habitats and species.

These informative articles provide the history of CEQA, giving us a better understanding of the process as it reduces our intimidation in getting involved, and how we can let the decision makers know that we want to make preservation of our biological resources a political priority.

CNPS guidelines urge us to "work with persons who make land use decisions for voluntary protection where possible and for legislative protection where needed".

Betty Gilchrist, President



## 1994 Bristlecone Chapter Spring and Summer Field Trips

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**APRIL 16.** Leader: Vince Yoder. A long overdue trip to see the CNPS official flower, the Panamint Daisy (*Enceliopsis covillei*). We guarantee that you will be impressed!. Meet at 9:00 am at the Visitor's Center south of Lone Pine. Those who come from the south may join the group at the Trona-Wildrose Junction in Panamint Valley at 10:00 am. The site is in the Panamint Mountains.

**MAY 5.** Leader: Brian Miller. East of the Inyo Mountains to "Tuefel Canyon", the type locality of *Caulostramina jaegeri*, cliff dweller. Meet at 9:00 am at the Visitor's Center south of Lone Pine. If you have a 4-wheel drive high clearance vehicle, us it for this trip.

**MAY 14.** Leader: Mary DeDecker. San Lucas Canyon and east Cerro Gordo Road on the east side of the Inyo Mountains. See the broad-shouldered milk-vetch (*Astragalus cimae* var. *sufflatus*), endemic to that east side, and other species of interest. Meet at 9:00 am at the Visitor's Center south of Lone Pine.

**JUNE 4.** Leader to be announced. Falls Creek, west of Olancho. Meet at 10:00 am at gas station along 395 just out of Olancho.

**JUNE 25.** Leader: Anne Halford. Adobe Valley and Sagehen Summit loop. This trip will begin in Adobe Valley where we will explore the wetland and meadow vegetation surrounding Black Lake and also see the most northerly population of the Inyo County star tulip (*Calochortus excavatus*). After lunch we will visit the Sagehen Summit area to see the rare Mono milk-vetch (*Astragalus monoensis*) and other pumice site endemics such as

Duran's lupine (*Lupinus duranni*) and pumice Hulsea, *Hulsea vestita*. Meet in Benton at the junction of Highways 6 and 120 at 10:00 am. High clearance vehicles recommended.

**JULY 8-10.** Joint trip with the Northern Nevada Native Plant Society to most likely the Sweetwater Mountains. Details will be announced in the May newsletter.

**JULY 16-17.** Leader: Doris Fredendall. Overnight trip to the Glass Mountains. Camp at Sawmill Meadows. Meet in Benton at the junction of Highways 6 and 120 at 10:00 am Saturday.

For those who miss the group. After approximately 15 miles north on Highway 120 we will turn left on 1S01 (watch for road sign). Keep to the right at the fork where you will leave the canyon bottom; then keep to the left at the intersection with 1S16.

There is wood, but no water (except in the meadow) at the 10,000 ft. camp site. Bring warm clothes. Also insect repellent, the usual camping gear, hand lens, reference books, notebook, etc. There will be a great variety of plants!!

**AUGUST 6.** Leader: Richard Potashin. "See and sketch" plant walk in Onion Valley. Meet at vacant lot across (north) from the post office in Independence at 9:00 am. Bring sketch pad or paper, clip board, pencils, pens or color markers and eraser. Call Richard at 973-6692 if you need more information.

NOTE: For more information on trips call Field Trip Chairperson, Mary DeDecker at 619-878-2389

## Upcoming Events

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### **The Future of California Floristics and Systematics - Research, Education, Conservation.**

June 3, 4, & 5, Valley Life Sciences Building, UC Berkeley. This symposium sponsored by the Friends of the Jepson Herbarium will be of interest to a broad audience. For more information contact the Jepson Herbarium, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94170. (510) 643-7008.

### **White Mountain Research Station 1994 Spring Lecture Series.**

WMRS Bishop Classroom, 3000 East Line Street, Bishop. **Thursday evenings, 7:30 pm.** Admission is free and all are invited. For more information telephone (619) 873-4344

### **March 10. Coastal Sage Scrub: Endangered Species and Development in Southern California.**

Richard MacMillen  
Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences. University of California, Irvine.

### **March 17. The Rise and Fall of Lake Owens.**

Amalie Orme  
Department of Geography.  
California State University,  
Northridge.

### **March 24. Black Toads of Deep Spring Valley.**

Susan Szewczak  
Department of Biology, Deep Springs College.



### **March 31. Ecological and Economic Implications of Land and Resources Management Policy in Inyo and Mono Counties.**

Timothy Duane  
White Mountain Research Station.

### **April 7. A New Approach to Regional Ecosystem Management.**

Deborah Elliott-Fisk, Director  
University of California Natural Reserve System and Science Team.  
Leader of the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project.

### **April 14. The Holocene Glaciation of the Sierra Nevada.**

Alan Gillespie and Douglas Clark  
Department of Geological Sciences.  
University of Washington.

**Also at White Mountain Station will be the following Weekend Workshops. Contact Elizabeth Phillips for more information at (619) 873-4344.**

### **Saturday April 2. Home Horticulture and Gardening.**

Rhonda Gildersleeve, Farm Advisor,  
Inyo and Mono Counties.

### **Saturday and Sunday May 14 and 15, and Saturday and Sunday May 21 and May 22. Field Geology: Eastern Sierra, Owens Valley, Long Valley and Mono Craters.**

Led by Ray Gray and Clem Nelson.

### **A Native Plant Sale: Could It Happen Here?**

Native plant sales are annual rituals for CNPS chapters throughout the state. A well-planned event brings in money and exposure to a chapter and its year-round activities.

## Plant Sale continued.

With this in mind, I thought it was time our chapter explored the possibility of holding a plant sale. By gleaning ideas from CNPS newsletters from across the state and adding some of my own, I've drawn up a draft proposal for the Bristlecone Chapter's 1st Annual Owens Valley Native Plant Sale.

### **Purpose**

A plant sale provides an excellent opportunity to educate the public about our local native flora and its role in the residential landscape. It can be an important fundraising event for the chapter while providing a market for selling our books, T-shirts and posters. As an outreach effort, it brings visibility to our chapter.

### **Where and When**

The event could be held in late summer or fall, usually an ideal time to establish natives in your garden. Our first priority is to find a highly visible location. Since Jim Roberts is currently raising native plants, perhaps the Sierra Gardens Nursery would be an appropriate location. Or the Bishop City Park...Do we want to piggy back with another event like the Labor Day Art Show or the Millpond Music Festival? How about at the future Farmer's Market at the Tri-County Fairgrounds sometime in summer or fall of 1995? All possibilities, and your input is encouraged!

### **What To Sell and How Do We Obtain**

We should sell native shrubs and trees that are easily adapted to the ornamental landscape, are native to the Inyo-Mono area, don't require high maintenance, and are not water use intensive. We may even consider selling seed packets of native

annual and perennial wildflowers for garden use.

To minimize costs, it would be best to get the support of native plant nurseries and seed companies to donate materials for the initial sales. Some potential plant material sources are: Sierra Gardens Nursery, Mammoth Nursery, Theodore Payne Nursery, Nevada State Forestry Nursery, Comstock Seed Company, and Las Pilitas Nursery.

Another great source of plants could be our own chapter members who would volunteer to grow natives for the sale. This would require some lead time and planning but could be a fun way to go.

### **Setting up and Working the Plant Sale**

Volunteers will comprise most of the staff at these sales and hopefully our pool of chapter members will be able to fill the specialized niches, e.g. publicity, restocking, finance and education necessary to make the whole event run smoothly.

### **Advertising**

Plant sales die on the vine without adequate media exposure. All mediums need to be utilized. Here are some ideas: prepare public service announcements on local radio, get a piece on the WestStar cable channel, write articles in the Register and the Mono Herald and create some flyers.

### **Costs**

Costs may be incurred in purchasing plant materials and advertising the sale. Costs could be kept down by emphasizing our non-profit status and having people donate services and materials. Perhaps we can tie the plant sale and money raised to some

Plant Sale continued.

particular goal, like a scholarship, or habitat restoration project.

### **Commitment**

A plant sale is a major step out into the community for us. It would require time, energy and resources on the part of all interested members. If we try this we should commit to making the plant sale an ongoing event that we re-evaluate as it evolves. Public acceptance of a plant sale, and ironing out the kinks may take a couple of years, but I know we have the people, tenacity and spirit to make it happen.

This proposal is like a sleeping seed waiting to be coaxed out by the spring. It is an idea that will evolve by the support and input from all members.

Richard Potashin

### **Conservation**

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**The following is a synopsis of a letter from David Magney regarding support of CALPAW (California Parks and Wildlife 1994 Initiative).**

CNPS strongly supports CALPAW 94 and I want to thank you for your generosity and work in helping to preserve our diverse natural resources. Still, we need more help in the form of endorsements from other organizations to solidify California voters behind CALPAW 94.

Our target is to get the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to join the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the California Congress of Seniors in endorsing CALPAW 94.

If you or someone you know is a member of AARP, please send a letter to AARP today stating support for CALPAW 94! It will take less than five minutes to write this letter, but the benefits of having AARP's endorsement could help CALPAW 94 win in June 1994.

Thank you again for your support and for writing your letter TODAY!!!

### **Mono Lake**

So we can all breathe easier now that Mono Lake is saved, right? WRONG! Even though Los Angeles and the Mono Lake Committee (MLC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding development and use of reclaimed water from Tillman Water Reclamation Plant available for groundwater recharge, the fight over the Lake level is not resolved. LA still wants it lower; everyone else wants it higher. The State Water Board will issue its findings eventually, the City will probably challenge it in the higher courts and the fight will go on. In the meantime, the MLC still needs your support. The City has nearly unlimited funds; not the MLC. Keep giving. Mono Lake --- Worth saving!

### **The Desert Protection Act**

Another phase of the long-drawn-out process to get a Desert Protection Act passed will soon begin. It is expected that the Bill will be brought to the Senate floor sometime in March. And now is the time for more letters to flood our Senators (Senator Feinstein has specifically said that she needs more letters expressing our support of the bill).

So get out your pen, typewriter, PC, etc.) NOW and please urge them to:

Conservation continued.

1. Restore lands excluded from Mojave Park (the Lanfair Exclusions).
2. Remove the Wallop Amendment allowing overflights and replace it with the more restrictive language Senators Feinstein and Nunn had negotiated previous to the October Committee hearings.
3. Resist all efforts to allow any shooting or grazing in Mojave National Park.
4. Resist any further efforts to cut acreage or allow damaging resource abuse by the military, toxic waste dumpers, off-roaders, woodcutters, miners, ranchers, etc.

WRITE: Senator Diane Feinstein and  
Senator Barbara Boxer.  
Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C., 20510

Our desert thanks you! - Vince Yoder

### **Black Lake**

Black Lake is a little blue gem in the east end of Adobe Valley, 25 miles southeast (as the avocet flies) of its big sister Mono Lake. Black Lake and its wetlands and meadows are currently privately owned - and they are for sale. The lake and wetlands are a haven for breeding, migrating and wintering shorebirds and waterfowl. The surrounding alkali meadows provide rare habitat for unique communities of salt-tolerant plants. One special-status plant is *Calochortus excavatus*, the alkali mariposa lily or Inyo star tulip, a federal Category 2 candidate species. The Black Lake population - now growing just north of the parcel for sale - is of particular genetic interest because it represents the species' northernmost distribution. The alkali meadows are also

interesting examples of the interface between wetland and upland plant communities. The Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Resource Area wants to acquire the 700-acre parcel to restore and protect the wildlife habitat and plant communities, as key components of the high desert ecosystem. Public support will be needed! Watch for more information in this newsletter and at upcoming meetings.

### **Oak Survey Needed**

For some years now our Chapter has been encouraging members and others to note the occurrence of oaks when hiking in the Eastern Sierra. Some responses have come in mostly from Mary Ann Henry, Mary DeDecker, and Betty Gilchrist.

Our Chapter had a field trip to South Fork Oak Creek, courtesy of Keith and Jane Bright. We had a thoroughly good time checking out this excellent stand of *Quercus wislizenii* (interior live oak). Some are 2'-3' DBH (diameter at breast height), 50'-60' tall and have full crowns. What a sight!

By far the most complete inventory of oaks in canyons over here was done by Derham Giuliani during his salamander survey for Fish and Game in the summers of 1988-1989. He ascended every canyon from, essentially, Walker Pass to Conway and noted the occurrence of ash, juniper, fir, birch, aspen, and oaks.

We as a chapter can build upon this database by doing surveys and documenting the numbers of oaks, juvenile recruitment, health of the stand, associated species and environmental site characteristics, e.g. elevation, slope and aspect. Photo records can be established as well. Here are almost unlimited opportunities for field work in the "off season" periods, e.g. no pretty flowers.

Oak Survey continued.

Forms are available from Mary DeDecker or me upon which to record the field data. Have fun!!

Vince Yoder

## Education

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Citizens can influence educational institutions to teach curricula more suited to society's challenge to live more lightly on the Earth. We can also guide children into their natural world with a view like that of Barry Lopez:

"whenever I walk with a child, I think how much I have seen disappear in my own life. What will there be for this person when he is may age? If he senses something ineffable in the landscape, will I know enough to encourage it?...- as we embrace Douglas firs, or stand by a river across whose undulating back we skip stones, or dig out a camas bulb, biting down into a taste so much wilder than last night's potatoes."

"The quickest door to open in the woods for a child is the one that leads to the smallest room, by knowing the name each thing is called. The door that leads to the cathedral is marked by a hesitancy to speak at all, rather to encourage by example a sharpness of the senses. If one speaks it should only be to say, as well as on can, how wonderfully all this fits together..." (Crossing Open Ground, Barry Lopez, quoted in Spring 1993 Orion). Excerpt from the Nature Conservancy - Kansas Chapter. Spring 1994.

## In Memory of June Latting

We are saddened to report that June Latting passed away on Friday, January 14, a victim of cancer at age 72. She was born in Kansas but had lived in Riverside for 25 years. June was an excellent botanist and a strong defender of the desert and its flora.

She was graduate of the University at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and of the University of California at Los Angeles; then earning a doctorate in botany from the latter university. She led a full life, devoted to botanical activities and conservation. She understood the California Desert and its plant life and was a strong voice in their behalf. She enjoyed the Northern Mojave and had participated in Bristlecone Chapter field trips. She was a member of our chapter.

June was always a lady but could display spunk on occasion. She had an exceedingly strong sense of dedication. She will be missed.

She is survived by her husband, Holcomb, a son Bibb, a daughter, Kay Guffey, of Eagle, Colorado, a grandchild, and her father, Joe Barnard of Broken Arrow Oklahoma. Her internment is to be in Tulsa, Oklahoma. However, her friends are planning a celebration of her life, possibly a picnic or luncheon at the UCR Botanic Gardens in the near future.

Mary DeDecker

## New Members

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A warm welcome to the following new members in our chapter.

Leroy and Jean Johnson  
Bishop

Bruce Pavlik  
Mills College, Oakland

## THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY - Membership Application

The California Native Plant Society is an organization of lay persons and professionals united by an interest in the plants of California. It is open to all. The society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase the understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Varied interests are represented.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ P.O. Box or Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be affiliated with the Bristlecone Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Category

<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Retired/Limited Income	\$18.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual or Library	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> International	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family or Group	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$1,000.00

Please make check payable to: The California Native Plant Society. **Mail to:** Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS. HCR 67 Box 35, Independence, CA 93526.

**Gift Contribution:** Where most needed \_\_\_\_\_, Conservation \_\_\_\_\_

THE BRISTLECONE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER comes out bimonthly. It is mailed free to members of the Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS. The subscription is \$5.00 per year for others. Editor: Anne Halford.

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