

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE FLORA

The California Native Plant Society



Bristlecone Chapter

Volume 24 No. 1
January/February 2004

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Our next meeting will be on January 28th, at 7:00 p.m. at the White Mtn. Research Station (WMRS). New WMRS Associate Director John Smiley will present a talk titled: "Fine structuring of willows, leaf beetles, and predators: adventures in the chemical dimension."

His talk will focus on the history of a long term project to study the interactions between willow communities and associated insects. The asperin-like compounds in willows play a central role, not only organizing the willow-herbivore interaction, but passing up the food chain and promoting specialized behavior in predators and parasites in the community. These findings support the idea that the "chemical dimension" is a major arena for the development of biological complexity.

NEXT CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

The next chapter board meeting will be at 7:00 p.m on Tuesday, January 20th, at Jerry Zatorski's house. All are welcome to attend. Please contact Jerry at 872-3818 for directions.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I'd like to begin my first president's message by acknowledging the fine job Stephen Ingram did as our chapter president for two and a half years. His leadership and his support for and participation in all our chapter activities contributed greatly to what we were able to accomplish. Thank you, Stephen!

I'm grateful that many of our Board members will be continuing in their positions. A warm welcome to Sue Weis who was elected Vice President and will be planning our programs. Cheryl Chipman will be taking over for Heidi Hopkins as publicity chairman and Edyth Irvine for Lora Rischer as education chairman. We thank Heidi and Lora for their work for our chapter and welcome Edyth and Cheryl to the Board. Our busy chapter needs volunteers in all our

efforts. If you'd like to help out and you have a particular interest, call the chairman on the back of this newsletter or call me. Our board meetings are open to members and we'd love to see some new faces.

We all enjoyed so much meeting at the Eastern California Museum last spring to dedicate our Mary Dedecker Native Plant Garden that we are planning to hold our May meeting there this year. We will meet on Saturday, May 1st, at 2:00 p.m. for an excellent program and tours of the garden in full bloom. We hope this will be a convenient time and place for many of our members in the southern Owens Valley and will encourage interest in the garden among Independence residents. Our January and March evening meetings will be the last Wednesdays of those months in Bishop. Please mark your 2004 calendar.

May winter rains bring back the wonderful display of wildflowers we enjoyed so much last spring!

.....Sherryl Taylor

UPCOMING EVENTS

FIELD TRIPS 2004 – Lead a trip this year!

Will it be another stupendous flower-filled spring? Find out on a Bristlecone Chapter field trip. We hope to have a range of trips, starting in the low desert in early spring and ending up in the high country in late fall. Many think that sharing flowers and beautiful places is the best part of belonging to the Bristlecone Chapter.

We will work on the field trip schedule at our next regular meeting on **January 28** in

Bishop. Please come with ideas for trips and plan to lead one! Trip leaders do not have to be botanists or plant experts – only a willingness to share a favorite place and a diligence with logistical details such as trip descriptions, car-pooling and communications. Please call with ideas or to volunteer to lead a trip.

Karen Ferrell-Ingram
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CONSERVATION

Truth is stranger than fiction!

In November 2003, residents of Owens Valley received (courtesy of LADWP) a large, glossy, color mailing entitled "Your guide to the great Owens Valley." Close examination of the brochure reveals several interesting things. As well as the usual touting of restoration projects (without mentioning that the projects are behind schedule and only carried out in response to litigation or the threat thereof), the guide twice showed a familiar photo. Familiar, that is, if you are familiar with the website of the Owens Valley Committee (OVC).

The photo is a close-up of a mariposa lily (*Calochortus* sp.) from the Owens Valley Flora page of the OVC website (<http://www.ovcweb.org/OwensValley/Flora.html>) That's right, the same OVC currently suing LADWP over its failures to meet deadlines implementing the Lower Owens River Project. The same Lower Owens River Project which receives a half page treatment in "Watershed and Eco-Restoration" section of the brochure. I'm not making this up!

If you're familiar with the "Plants of local interest" page of the Bristlecone Chapter website (<http://www.bristleconecnps.org/plants.htm>) you'll recognize another photo twice used in the brochure. The photo is of a bristlecone pine high on a mountain slope with a playa far below. That's right, LADWP also used a photo from our chapter website!

The caption LADWP assigned to the photo reads "The oldest trees on the planet – 4,000 year-old bristlecone pines – are found east of Big Pine in the White Mountains." The problem is that the photo shows a bristlecone in the Panamint Mountains, not the Whites, and the playa in the background is in Death Valley, not Owens Valley. Oops!

This story has a happy ending. The photographer, none other than chapter past president Stephen Ingram, reports that the copyrighted photo was used without his permission. He said LADWP's consultant that produced the brochure has admitted the error and agreed to a legal settlement. If only LADWP would settle its violations of the Water Agreement so quickly and easily!

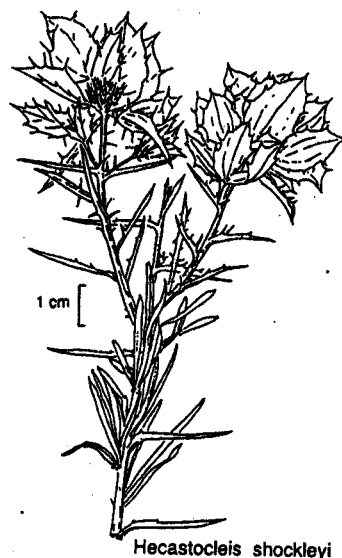
.....Daniel Pritchett

NEW MEMBERS

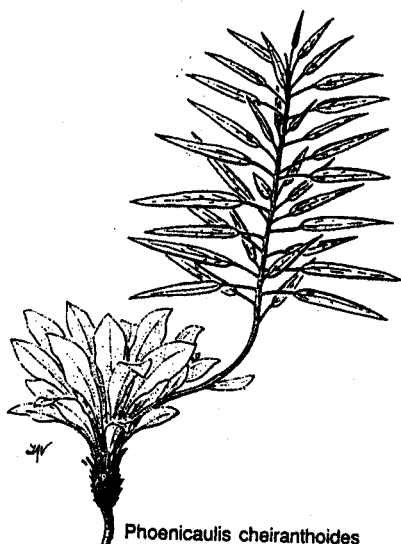
The Bristlecone Chapter warmly welcomes the following new members

Beth Dolgin - Mammoth Lakes

Paul & Carol Richman - Bishop



Hecastocleis shockleyi



Phoenicaulis cheiranthoides

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE –
FEBRUARY 28TH**

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 _____.

Bristlecone Chapter Directory (Partial List)

Membership Category

<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Retired/Limited Income	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual or Library	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> International	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family or Group	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life	\$1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$1,000.00

Please make membership checks payable to:

The California Native Plant Society.
 -Mail to: Bristlecone Chapter, CNPS

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Gift Contribution: Where most needed _____ Conservation _____.

THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (www.bristleconecnps.org) 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 non-members and can be obtained by sending newsletter subscriptions to CNPS, P.O. Box 364, Bishop, CA 93515-0364. Send newsletter articles not memberships to Newsletter Editor Anne Halford at 312 Shepard Lane, Bishop, CA 93514 - or email to: fkhalford@earthlink.net

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