

BOTANICAL LEAFLETS

ISSUE 19

SPRING 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's been a great spring here in Northern California. With all of the rain, we have had some wonderful wildflower displays in the valley grasslands. I helped teach a Plant Collection and Mounting Specimens workshop in April for the Friends of the Chico State Herbarium. And I have been a volunteer at the Sacramento Wildlife Refuge this spring with Jenny Marr looking for the rare plants in the vernal pools and alkali flats. I also helped with two wild-

flower shows. The Mt. Lassen chapter of the California Native Plant Society had their show in April here in Chico and was well attended. I also helped with the Siskiyou Wildflower Show in Yreka sponsored by the Klamath and Shasta Trinity National Forests. There were many people who came throughout Mother's Day to enjoy that show.

We had a great 2017 Symposium and we are now starting to talk about the

one for January 2019. We will skip 2018 since CNPS is will hold their state-wide conference in January 2018.

We have finished our review of applications and selection of the 2017-2018 student research scholarship awards. See Page 3 for information on the awardees.

Have a wonderful summer pursuing your many vast botanical adventures.

Linnea Hanson
President

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SUPERBLOOM IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

This Spring was amazing for desert wildflowers, vernal pool plants, and valley and foothill grasslands. One of the wettest winters on record resulted in spectacular displays throughout California—we hope you got an opportunity to see them in person. This photograph shows *Lasthenia fremontii* ringing a vernal pool at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge.

Photo by Joe Silveira

MYSTERY PLANT

This is a low-elevation, early-flowering plant of Northern California. It is found mainly on clay soils in foothills and grasslands (including pastures). The perianth parts have this unusual pinkish-purple color, and have huge nectaries on the inner surfaces. The capsular fruits, apparently resembling items sometimes used in gaming or gambling, gave rise to the generic name. The genus is a large one, with perhaps 100 species in temperate zones. (Answer on Page 2)

Photo by Robert Fischer



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
SUPERBLOOM IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	1
MYSTERY PLANT	1
THANK YOU 2017 SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS	2
2017-2018 SCHOLARSHIPS	2
ANSWER TO "MYSTERY PLANT"	2
BOTANISTS IN ACTION	3

THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS!

- Bureau of Land Management, California State Office
- California Botanical Society
- California Invasive Plant Council
- California Native Grasslands Association
- California Native Plant Society (State Office; Redbud, Sacramento Valley, and Shasta chapters)
- The Chico State Herbarium
- CSUC, College of Natural Sciences
- CSUC, Dept. of Biological Sciences
- Friends of the Chico State Herbarium
- Garcia and Associates
- Halkard Mackey
- Hedgerow Farms
- HDR, Inc.
- Lawrence Janeway
- Nomad Ecology
- Ray Collett Trust
- Robert A. Schlising
- Shasta-Trinity National Forest
- Sierra Pacific Foundation
- Siskiyou Field Institute
- Southern California Botanists
- Stillwater Sciences
- University & Jepson Herbaria, UCB
- Westervelt Ecological Services
- Wildlands

2017-2018 STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Northern California Botanists provides monetary scholarships for students doing research on botanical subjects in northern and central California. The Sacramento Valley and Shasta chapters of CNPS generously support this program by funding an additional scholarship each. We received 30 applications this year and as usual there were many great research projects to choose from. Congratulations to these students and thank you to all that submitted applications!

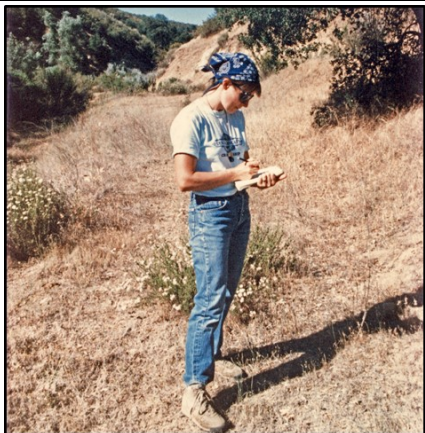
2017-2018 NCB RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Recipient	Degree Program	College	Title of Research Project
Chris Adlam Shasta Chapter Award	PhD	University of California, Davis	Climatic controls on conifer encroachment in oak habitats.
Mitchell Bamford	MS	California State University, Chico	Comparing restoration methods in invaded California grasslands.
Margot Buchbinder	MS	San Francisco State University	Facilitating physical and biological recovery with planted vegetation at a salt marsh restoration site.
Drew Burke and Kate Miller	Undergraduate	Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo	Floristic survey of Yosemite's sky islands.
Amanda Carr	MS	Western Washington	Invader success and species coexistence in a California ser-
Nick Jensen	PhD	Claremont Graduate University	Historical biogeography of the <i>Streptanthus howellii</i> alliance.
Maureen Page	PhD	University of California, Davis	Impacts of honey bee abundance on the pollination of native plants.
Prahlada Papper	PhD	University of California, Berkeley	Ecological and phylogenetic relationships of <i>Quercus garryana</i> var. <i>breweri</i> and var. <i>semota</i> .
Cody Rice	MS	California State University, Chico	Understanding the genetic diversity of <i>Darlingtonia californica</i> population clusters.
Carmen Tubbesing	PhD	University of California, Berkeley	Predicting forest recovery following high-severity fire.

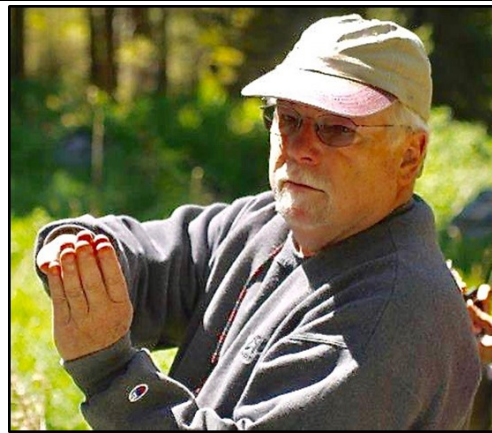
Answer to "Mystery Plant": *Fritillaria pluriflora* Torr. ex Benth. (Liliaceae)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS IN ACTION

A continuing series that highlights well-known to possibly less-well-known botanists, with photographs from the present to several decades back. Please share unpublished pictures of northern California botanists: send jpegs and information to rschlisling@csuchico.edu



Gail Kuenster's name is familiar to anyone who deals with the Northern California Botanists (since 2007!). Gail is the friendly, efficient power-house that handles membership, newsletter, website, symposium registrations, scholarship checks (and more!). She is shown as a student, working for the CA Dept. of Water Resources some time ago. She is now an Environmental Program Manager with DWR in Sacramento, and has a home in Paradise, near where she did research on *Erythronium* for her master's thesis.



Bob Patterson earned his Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and has since been leading a fruitful career at San Francisco State University. He has had 35 graduate students and always brings some of them to the NCB symposia. He works on the systematics of Polemoniaceae and Hydrophyllaceae and gave the keynote address on the phlox family for the NCB symposium in 2011. Bob has been editor of *Madrõno* and President of the California Botanical Society. Here Bob is shown in the field, demonstrating the thigmotropic stigmas in the monkey-flowers.



Don Lepley, shown here at the Dye Creek Preserve in Tehama County, has been Assistant Botanist with the Lassen National Forest in Susanville since 2007. Don went to Dartmouth College and then worked for several years, mostly in the Boston Area. Then he criss-crossed the country (PA, TX, CO) working with various land management agencies before settling in Susanville. Don has dedicated considerable volunteer time collecting bryophytes for the California Academy of Sciences Herbarium.



Annie Eblin is a "new" botanist, who graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz, with a degree in Environmental Sciences and a focus on plant physiology. She has been particularly active in projects relating to invasive species identification and abatement, and has already worked at various management and restoration projects in the Santa Cruz, Arcata and Santa Barbara areas. This year she landed a job as a botanist with Garcia and Associates, in Auburn. Annie is shown here at a CNPS plant identification workshop at Monterey in 2017.



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