



The Pipevine



Newsletter of the Mount Lassen Chapter
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

June – July – August 2023

2023 Wild Flower Show

Many thanks to the Mount Lassen Chapter CNPS and Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

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Photos by Christine Hantelman

Plant sale at the Wildflower Show



Photo by Kim Young, Garden Creek Farm



Photo by Christine Hantelman

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Contribute to *The Pipevine*

Issue Deadline

No issue in January

February January 10

March February 10

April March 10

May April 10

June, July, Aug May 10

September August 10

October September 10

November October 10

December November 10

Email: carlaphoto@gmail.com

MEETINGS

Executive Board Meeting:

Third Wednesday of each month

at 7 pm, except June, July & December.

All CNPS members welcome.

To attend email:

mountlassen@cnps.org

Field Trips

Marjorie McNairn

To attend any of these field trips make a reservation signing up on the Mount Lassen Chapter Meetup and click on the link to sign the required waiver. <https://www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Mount-Lassen-Chapter/>



Concow Serpentine Saturday, June 10

Macnab Cypress

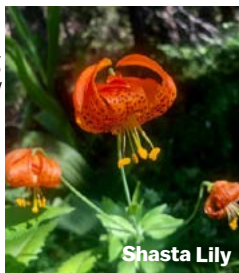
Meet at Chico Park and Ride west lot (Highway 32 and 99 off-ramp) at 9 am. Wear sturdy shoes and bring hat, hiking poles, sunscreen, water and lunch, and money for ride sharing. High clearance vehicles preferred. We plan to drive through Concow and visit the serpentine outcrops along Concow Road and Rim Road. We will visit serpentine plants in the outcrops including McNab Cypress. This will be a stop and start driving field trip so we will want to car pool to have only 5 vehicles on the field trip. All day field trip. Leaders: Lawrence Janeway and Linnea Hanson.

Doon Grade Saturday, June 24

Meet at 9 am at Chico Park and Ride west lot. Bring water, lunch/snacks, clothing appropriate for the weather at elevation of 3000' and wear sturdy shoes. This 3-mile round trip hike is along the old Doon Grade rail line just south of Stirling City where it looks down on the Little West Fork of the West branch of the Feather River. We hope to see flowers along the old rail bed, large old abandoned logs, and the collapsed rail tunnel. Leader: Marjorie.

Kennedy Meadows Saturday, July 8

Meet at Chico Park & Ride west lot at 9 am or Jonesville snowmobile parking lot at 10 am. Bring water, lunch, insect/sun protection and money for ride sharing. Wear footgear suitable for slogging in marshy ground and for short hikes. We will drive up Hwy 32 and turn off to Butte Meadows and



Shasta Lily

Jonesville. We will walk through a wonderland of blooms in upper and lower Kennedy Meadows to see a variety of wetland flowers: camas, leopard lily, little elephant heads, Veronica, Tofieldia, bog orchid, and insectivorous sundew. We may stop at Cherry Hill Meadow to see the pitcher plants (*Darlingtonia californica*). Leader: Marjorie.

Valley Creek Special Interest Area Friday, July 28

Meet at Chico Park and Ride west lot (Highway 32 and 99 off-ramp) at 9 am. Wear sturdy shoes and bring hat, hiking poles, bug repellent, water and lunch, and money for ride sharing. We will travel from the Chico Park and Ride to Valley Creek trailhead just north of American House on the Marysville-LaPorte Road, about an hour and a half from Chico. We plan to hike the 1.5 mile circular trail in Valley Creek to view the many plants in the mixed conifer forest. The trail is well-maintained and is moderately challenging due to uneven terrain. All day field trip. Leaders: Emily Doe and Linnea Hanson.

Vina Plains Preserve Summer Field Trip Saturday, August 12

Meet at Chico Park and Ride west lot (Highway 32 and 99 off-ramp) at 8 am or at Vina Preserve gate at 8:30 am. Wear sturdy shoes and bring hat, hiking poles, sunscreen, water and lunch, and money for ride sharing. We will travel to Vina Plains north of Chico. We plan to visit *Orcuttia*, *Tuctoria* and the Hoover Spurge that are found in the dry vernal pools on the preserve. The surface will be uneven due to cow footprints but otherwise relatively flat. Leaders: Elena Gregg and Marjorie.



Orcuttia pilosa

Kings Creek Falls, Lassen Volcanic National Park Friday, August 25

Meet at the Park & Ride nearest the freeway at 8:30 am. Bring appropriate clothing, lunch, water and sturdy footwear. We will drive up Hwy 32, Hwy 36 & Hwy 89 to Lassen Park and follow Lassen Park Road over the summit and meet at the Kings Creek Picnic Area rest stop, which is just before the trailhead for Kings Creek Falls. If we go to Sifford Lakes, the walk will be about 5 miles round trip, with a 500 foot elevation gain. We hope to see white gentian at the Kings Creek rest stop and other blooming plants, and we will identify shrubs and trees. Expect all day. Leader: Marjorie.

All Things Botanically Related Presentation Series from The Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

Upcoming Presentations

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
May	Sedums	Barbara Wilson
June	Chico State Greenhouses	Shaine Hall
July	Evaluation of a restored wet meadow	Kaylie DeLuca (Jokerst Award winner topic)
August	Eriogonum	Travis Columbus
September	Seeds	Jenifer Jewell
October	Geophytes	Rob Preston

To register for the Zoom talks go to:

<https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/presentation-series>

Upcoming Workshops from The Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

To register and for more information go to: <https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/workshops-and-events>

Butterflies of Butte County and Their Larval Host Plants

Workshop Leader: Dr. Don Miller

Thursday, June 1, 2023, 9 am–5 pm

Optional Follow-up Field trip – Friday, June 2, 2023

\$110 personal, \$135 business, \$100 for members of Friends of the Ahart Herbarium, and \$50 student (only 2 seats available at the student price)

Butterflies are among the most charismatic and easily identified pollinating insects. California has a rich and distinctive butterfly fauna with about 250 species, 115 of which have been recorded in Butte County. Besides serving as pollinators, the vast majority of butterflies are herbivorous in their larval stages. This workshop provides an introduction to some of the butterfly species found in Butte County, with a special emphasis on their relationships with larval host plants. The dietary breadth of caterpillars varies broadly, ranging from specialists such as the Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*), whose local populations feed solely on *Aristolochia californica*, to generalists such as the Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*), whose larvae consume the foliage of more than 300 plant species from at least seven families.

Introduction to the Willows of California (Salicaceae)

Workshop Leader: John Bair

Saturday, June 24, 2023, 9 am–5 pm

\$110 personal, \$135 business, \$100 for members of Friends of the Ahart Herbarium, and \$50 student (only 2 seats available at the student price)

California is home to over one quarter of the estimated 120 willow species growing in North America. Cottonwoods and willows are the most common riparian hardwood species in California and yet many of us have little idea of how to tell them apart. Species identification is often neglected because willows are thought to frequently hybridize, which is further compounded by only having vegetative material during field visits when we think we need flowers to make a positive identification. The workshop will focus on the leaf, stem, and other vegetative growth characteristics that are useful in making identification while also emphasizing the regional distributions of the different species. The goal of the workshop is to provide a broad overview of willows, highlight vegetative characteristics used in the identification keys in *The Jepson Manual* (second edition) and familiarize participants with the six most common willows in California.

About The Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

The Friends of the Ahart Herbarium is an all-volunteer organization that promotes botanical education and outreach. Our mission is to provide support for the herbarium and demonstrate and publicize the value of the herbarium to the community.

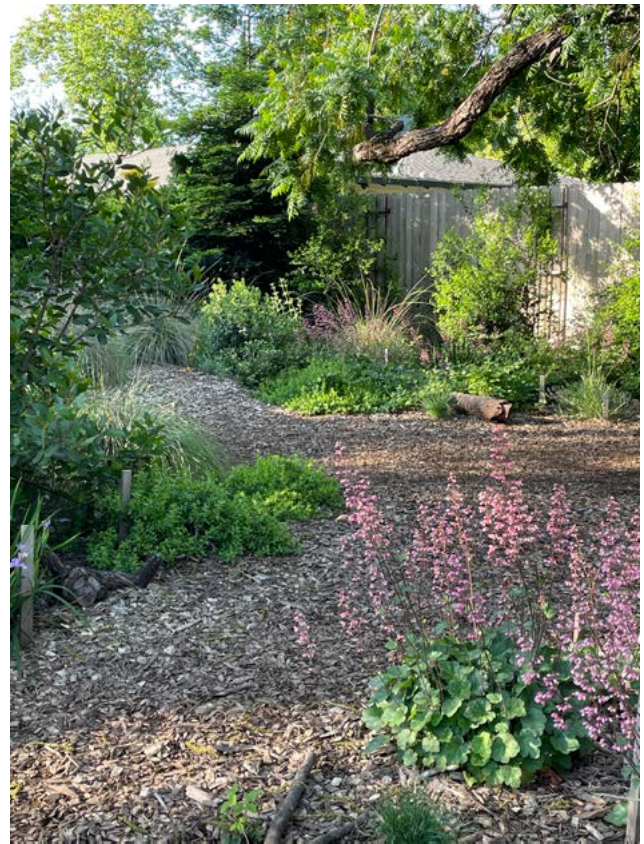
The Friends of the Ahart Herbarium operates under auspices of the California State University Chico, and the University Foundation, and thereby enjoys non-profit status and has access to the use of University classrooms and equipment. At least half of workshop registration fees go to help support the Friends activities on behalf of the Herbarium.

Gardening with Natives *by Deborah Halfpenny*

I've heard it said, "Fall is for planting, spring is for enjoying." Wise California native gardening advice. If I were to add anything to that, I'd say, "And summer is for planning."

As we move into the hot summer months, my gardening routine changes from working with native plants to attending to my vegetable & pollinator garden. I spend the cool mornings outside in the garden and then spend the hot afternoons indoors planning future native/habitat garden additions or changes and researching the perfect plants to use. I probably spend an inordinate amount of time playing with Calscape's "advanced search" <https://calscape.org/search.php>, but I've learned a lot by doing that. Before midsummer, I usually have a nice list of plants and seeds that I want to have on hand come fall. If I travel around the state during the summer, I watch for these plants and buy them as I find them. Keeping native plants happy in their containers through our hot, dry summers is a somewhat-challenging gardening job, but is easier, in my opinion, than searching, often unsuccessfully, to find those plants at the nurseries in the fall when stock is low and I'm ready to plant. The point is this: you do not have to be a dormant native gardener just because your garden is in its summer dormancy. Using the summer dry heat to kill your lawn while you plan for the upcoming planting season is time very well spent.

While it is generally advised not to plant natives after March in our area, some native plants will succeed even if planted in the late spring, early summer. These plants are those that grow naturally in moist environments and will accept, and even like, the extra summer water required to get them established, things like *Carex* sp., Creek Dogwoods (*Cornus*), ferns, Spice Bush (*Calycanthus*), and milkweed - to mention a few. In the case of our local milkweeds (*Asclepias fascicularis*, *speciosa*, *eriocarpa*, and *cordifolia*), purchasing and planting now, in late spring as the plants emerge from their winter dormancy, is usually



California Native Plant Garden. Photo by Deborah Halfpenny

better than planting in the fall when it is easy to lose track of them in the garden during their winter dormancy. If you're considering adding some local milkweed to your garden for the Monarchs, do it soon. Check out Calscape and Xerces Society for more milkweed planting advice.

Want to start planning your native habitat garden, but don't know where to start? Contact me at neighborhood_habitat.aas@gmail.com. We have lots of resources and experiences to help you get off on the right foot.

California Native Plant Photo Contest from The Friends of the Ahart Herbarium

Submit your photo for a chance to win \$100 and an individual Friends of the Ahart Herbarium annual membership.

Entry is free.

Your favorite photo of California native plants. Any format (e.g., macro, landscape, artistic) is acceptable if California native plants are the subject of the photo. Photos can be from previous years but cannot include photos previously submitted to a Friends of the Ahart Herbarium photo contest. Photos must be your own work. One entry per person.

Entry Period April 1–May 31, 2023 to enter and information:

<https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/eventsviewcalendar/2023photocontest>



Do you have a copy?

Manual of the Vascular Plants of Butte County, California by Oswald, Vernon; Ahart, Lowell-1998

It is still being sold on the used book market

61 copies as of 4/21/2023 are still available, from \$39.99 to \$276.37

The new version is available from Friends of the Ahart Herbarium for \$30 plus shipping and tax:

Vern Oswald's Selected Plants of Northern California and Adjacent Nevada, Third Edition by Lawrence P. Janeway

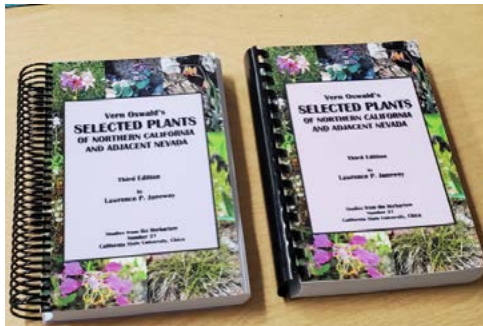
Studies from the Herbarium Number 21

California State University, Chico

504 pages, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 in., comb bind or spiral bind.

To order visit:

<https://friendsoftheahartherbarium.org/sfth>



Plant Spotlight

Blue Field Gilia *Gilia capitata*

Gilia capitata is a species of flowering plant in the Polemoniaceae (Phlox) family known by the common name blue field gilia. This annual is native to much of western




Photo: Brian Teng

North America from Alaska to northern Mexico, and it can be found on the eastern side of the continent as an introduced species. In California it is widespread, occurring along the coast and in the Sierras. It grows in many habitats, especially in sandy or rocky soils. This wildflower is somewhat variable in form and appearance, with eight recognized subspecies. The branching, leafy stems reach anywhere from 10 to 90 centimeters in maximum height and sometimes having hairs on the fleshy herbage. The leaves are divided into toothed or lobed leaflets. Atop the branches of the thick stem are spherical flower clusters of 50 to 100 small flowers. Each flower has a throat opening into a spreading corolla which may be white, pink, lavender, or light blue. The stamens protrude slightly from the flower's mouth and are white with white, blue, or pink anthers. It is frequently included in wildflower seed mixes. —*Calscape*

These businesses support the goals of CNPS. Members get a 10% discount on plants.

Floral Native Nursery
14388 Meridian Road
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(530) 892-2511



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LITTLE RED HEN



Rare Plant in Lassen Chapter Boundary

Erythranthe glaucescens also called *Mimulus glaucescens*

Common Name: SHIELD-BRACTED MONKEYFLOWER

Family: Phrymaceae (LOPSEED FAMILY)

Name origin: erythranthe is from Greek “erythros,” red, “anthos,” flower (red spots on the flower petals, usually). And glaucescens is from Greek glaukos, meaning “gleaming” or “gray,” and has been used to describe a range of pale colors from a yellow-green to a bluish-gray. The so-called Monkey Flowers got their name because their flowers have a mouth-like shape, and to some they resemble the face of a monkey.

Erythranthe glaucescens is a California native that is endemic (limited) to California, where it is known only from the foothills of the southernmost Cascade Range and adjacent northernmost Sierra Nevada. It grows in moist areas, such as seeps and swales.

Erythranthe glaucescens is an annual herb (6-80 cm) that is found in seepage areas and swales below 600 meters (2000 feet).

It has a California Rare Plant Rank of 4.3, indicating that it is uncommon in California, has a limited distribution, and is on a CNPS watch list. These plants are considered not very threatened in California, meaning that less than 20 percent of occurrences are threatened or there is a low degree and immediacy of threat or there are no currently known threats.

Identification:

The inflorescence is a raceme of flowers with a distinctive pair of bracts completely fused around the stem to form a rounded disc up to 4.5 centimeters wide and its glaucous trait consists of the presence a fine bloom or fine white powder of wax on the epidermis surface giving it a greyish color like some cabbage leaves. These key diagnostic characters are easily used to identifying the “species “or specific epithet.

In the taxonomy (plant classification) system, each species is assigned a particular name in a binomial form. The binomial name of a species is based on the binomial nomenclature system. The name of a species must have two parts, i.e. the genus name (*Erythranthe*) and the specific epithet (*glaucescens*); together the genus and specific epithet constitute the species name.

Flowering Time: March to May

Plant Tolerances: *Erythranthe glaucescens* is not currently available from nurseries but information can be found at: <https://www.calflora.org/entry/compare.html?crn=13426>

General:

Monkey flowers are actually a diverse group of some 150 species worldwide, with about 80 of those species native to California, and are being researched and reclassified. The genus *Mimulus* once contained more than 100 species—and many experts consider that it still does. However, based on DNA studies, botanists restructured the group in 2012 into the genera (plural for genus) *Mimulus*, *Erythranthe*, and *Diplacus*, placing numerous monkey flower species in other genera and leaving just seven species in the *Mimulus* genus, found in North America, Australia, Madagascar, Africa, and a handful of South Asian countries. This reorganization is still a matter of debate among some botanists.

Sources for further reading:

<https://rareplants.cnps.org/plants/details?taxon=Erythranthe%20glaucescens>

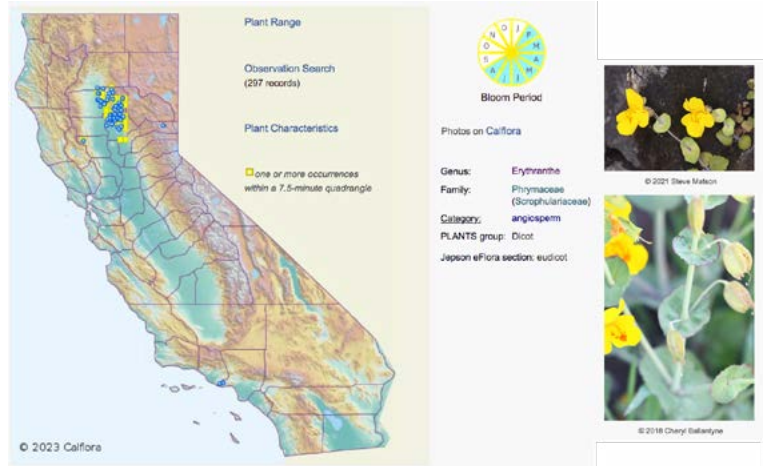
<https://www.calflora.org/app/taxon?crn=13426>

<https://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/monkey-flower>

https://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/flora/flora_display.php?tid=99127

[https://www.biologyonline.com/dictionary/specific-epithet#:~:text=Specific%20epithet-,Definition%20noun%2C%20plural%3A%20specific%20epithets%20The%20second%20part%20of%20the,binomial%20\(or%20scientific\)%20name](https://www.biologyonline.com/dictionary/specific-epithet#:~:text=Specific%20epithet-,Definition%20noun%2C%20plural%3A%20specific%20epithets%20The%20second%20part%20of%20the,binomial%20(or%20scientific)%20name)

Coombes, Allen J. (1985). Dictionary of Plant Names. Port Jervis, NY: Lubrecht & Cramer, LTD. p. 119. ISBN 978-0-600-35770-4



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California Native Plant Society

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Send Membership Application to:

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