Fieldtrips

May 19 - Eight Mile Valley - This area is located on the east side of Cow Mountain Ridge and hosts a diverse array of native species in grassland, oak woodland, and chaparral communities. Meet at 9:00 in front of the Farm Bureau building at 303 Talmage Road. Call Chuck Williams at (707) 462-8984 for any additional information.

June 1 - McNab Creek Canyon - We have permission to hike on a large parcel of private land located up the McNab Ranch Road. Meet at the large pullout area at the bottom of the road at 9:30. Call Kerry Heise at (707) 744-1620 for more information.

July 22, 23 - Snow Mountain Wilderness - This will be a wonderful overnight trip. The high peaks and ridges of Snow Mountain support a flora more typical of the Klamath Mountains and the Sierra Nevada. Also, several endemic species to the North Coast Ranges are found here. Call Vishnu at (707) 467-1341.

Going To The Landfill
- Ed Dearing

Over thirty years ago I was on Rabbit Hill, then the residence of my friends Huck and Skee Hamann anticipating the arrival of the great western botanist from the California Academy of Sciences, John Thomas Howell. He came with an entourage of older women who seemed to dote on everything he said or did. One of the women asked Skee where we were going to botanize that day. She replied that we were going to an area of serpentine hills about three miles north of Middletown on Highway 29. The white haired old lady looked up at Skee and smiled. Then she declared loudly, we're going to the dump! We always love to go to the dump!

Well, the county dump has long since been cleaned up and relocated, but this area remains an interesting area to observe the serpentine flora of southern Lake County in the spring. The area extends from a dry adobe flat just past the culvert crossing of Crazy Creek about two and a quarter miles north of Middletown, passing through two low ridges of pure blue serpentine rock, and ending in a varnally wet meadow before you get to the intersection of Grange Road. There are good pullout parking areas along the mile extent of this zone.

Some of the plants to see include:

Evening Snow, (Linanthus dichotomus var. meridianus), a low-growing plant with white flowers over an inch across. Bitterroot, (Lewisia rediviva), the state flower of Montana. Allium fimbriatum, a native onion with large red-purple umbels of flowers, Pale Western Larkspur (Delphinium hesperium ssp. pallescens) with three foot spikes of white, pink and pale blue flowers, Swamp Larkspur (Delphinium uliginosum), two species of Dwarf Flax (Hesperolinum bicarpellatum) with yellow flowers and (H. californicum) with white flowers, and Serpentine Snapdragon (Antirrhinum cornutum).

A New Species of Tarweed From Mendocino County - Kerry Heise

Bruce Baldwin from the U.C. Jepson Herbarium has recently described a new tarweed species from a serpentine area just west of Hopland. The new species, Harmonia guggolziorum, is named in honor of Jack and Betty Guggolz of Cloverdale, who collected the first specimens. In the Jepson manual Harmonia is included in the large genus Madia and is represented by a group of at least five species, with pappus present, from serpentine areas in northwestern California. A full description can be found in the recent issue of Madrono (Vol. 48, pp. 293-297), the journal of the California Botanical Society.
COME TO THE RAINSHADOW

May 31 - June 2 is the CNPS Chapter Council meeting weekend, hosted by the Bristlecone chapter. All members and their families are welcome! This is going to be a fun event in a beautiful place. They will meet at Camp Inyo at the base of the Sierra near Big Pine. Anyone is welcome at the Saturday Council meeting, where there will be valuable information-sharing and interesting discussions about native plant issues. Delegates can vote, but all can participate. A portion of this meeting will solicit chapters to share ideas on their “best outreach tricks”.

Events planned by the host chapter include:

- A field trip to McMurry Meadow near Camp Inyo on Friday afternoon.
- Dinner Friday evening (and the Board of Directors will meet Friday night)
- Chapter Council meeting Saturday
- Happy hour and dinner Saturday evening, and presentations on features of the area and on the “Flora of the Glass Mountains” (by the graduate student working on a thesis there)
- Sunday field trips:
  1. Juniper Flat in the Inyo Mountains
  2. Dedecker Memorial Garden and other areas near Independence
  3. Long Valley and Glass Mountains area

For more information please contact Sherryl Taylor at Sherrylt76@aol.com. They need responses before 15 May to help them plan for the field trips, etc. And you’ll need to get lodging lined up soon—motel, bunkhouse, campground, RV, etc. Some travel and lodging funds are available to Sanhedrin Chapter members wishing to attend as representatives. Call Chuck Williams for more information: (707) 462-8984.

Restoring and Managing Central Valley Native Grasslands

This is a joint meeting of the Society for Range Management and the California Native Grass Association to be held on June 7 - 8, 2002; Mission de Oro Convention Center at the Ramada Inn, Santa Nella, CA

There is a choice of two field trips on Saturday:
The San Luis National Wildlife Refuge Complex, or The San Felipe Ranch, featuring native riparian and native grass/shrub/tree restoration.

Early registration: $80  Contact Information:  California Native Grass Association
1-866-456-CNGA  www.cnga.org  

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California Native Plant Society - Sanhedrin Chapter
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