Sanhedrin Chapter Bryophyte Events

Jan. 16, 2018: Evening with Mosses, UCCE office, Ukiah California. Instructors: Marisela de Santa Ana, Kerry Heise, Geri Hulse-Stephens

About 30 enthusiastic folks attended this open house affair held at the UC Cooperative Extension office in Ukiah. Following a brief introduction people casually examined many common species on display with hand lenses and both dissecting and compound microscopes. We were pleased with the turn out and expect many to return for our next lab night when we'll spend more time under the scopes preparing slides and looking at important morphological features needed for identification.

Jan. 27, 2018: Hike in Montgomery Woods State Natural Reserve. Leaders: Marisela de Santa Ana and Kerry Heise

The Sanhedrin Chapter kicked off the 2018 fieldtrip season with a bryophyte walk through Montgomery Woods State Natural Reserve in Mendocino County. The Reserve lies about 20 miles east of the Pacific Ocean in the upper headwaters of the South Fork Big River watershed and largely supports a coniferous forest of Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), and tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*).
Eleven folks began the hike in cool drizzly conditions in route to the stands of old growth redwood along upper Montgomery Creek lush with chain fern (Woodwardia fimbriata) and sword fern (Polystichum munitum). Some highlights of the day include: Aulacomnium androgynum and Orthodicranium tauricum covering burned redwood skeletons, Metaneckera menziesii draping trunks of white alder (Alnus rhombifolia), Porotrichum bigelovii completely covering shady sandstone boulders, and dense patches of the liverwort Conocephalum conicum on wet banks along the creek. Other bryophyte species noted were Amphidium californicum, Atrichum selwynii, Claopodium whippleanum, Dendroalsia abietina, Epiptrygium tozeri, Fissidens bryoides, Homalotheccium nuttallii, Isothecium cristatum, I. stoloniferum, Kindbergia oregana, K. praelonga, Scleropodium obtusifolium, and S. touretii.

Porotrichum bigelovii, a common pleurocarpus moss completely covering a boulder.