A Mistaken Identity by Chris Beresford

With great chagrin we alert our plant sale customers that we have been selling a plant misidentified as Sticky Cinquefoil (Drymocallis (formerly Potentilla) glandulosa). Even worse, the true identity of the plant, Sulfur Cinquefoil (Potentilla recta), is a class A invasive plant. If you have this plant, please dig and destroy it!

Our nursery bought the seeds of this species several years ago from a very reputable native plant supplier, labeled Sticky Cinquefoil. Those of us who planted it in our own gardens were pleased with how easily it grew. Eventually one of our nursery workers decided to practice plant ID in her garden and discovered our plant was not glandulosa.

At the same time I opened a beautiful new issue of the Salmon River Restoration Council magazine and found their "Invasive Plant Spotlight" was none other than Sulfur Cinquefoil. With my lens and microscope I discovered that our plant had stiff hairs sticking straight out on the stems and leaves, both short and long hairs on the lower stem, most basal leaves dried by the time it was blooming, pale yellow flowers, and wrinkly seeds (visible even when very green). This all matched Sulfur Cinquefoil.

Sigh. We really do try very hard to have the correct names on the plants we sell, as I’m sure every nursery does. This episode demonstrates that "things happen," and plants do end up with incorrect names. You as the gardener always need to stay alert to this possibility.

If you would like to help us with quality control, please come see us! If you are good at plant ID and would like to collect seeds for us locally (in Humboldt County), please talk with us. We could use some seeds of either Sticky Cinquefoil or Slender Cinquefoil (Potentilla gracilis)!

Please watch for updates on our web site (www.NorthCoastCNPS.org) or sign up for e-mail announcements (Northcoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Outings are open to everyone, not just members. All levels of expertise, from beginners to experienced botanizers, are welcome. Address questions about physical requirements to the leader. Contact the leader so you can be informed of any changes.

With a little help choosing dates and contacting leaders, Carol could schedule more plant walks, 2-hour walks close to Arcata-Eureka. If you can help, please contact her!

Please watch for updates on our web site (NorthCoastCNPS.org) or sign up for e-mail announcements (Northcoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Outings are open to everyone, not just members. All levels of expertise, from beginners to experienced botanizers, are welcome. Address questions about physical requirements to the leader. Contact the leader so you can be informed of any changes.

**July 6-8, Friday-Sunday. Scott Mountain Campout and Russian Wilderness Day Hike.** Saturday’s feature hike will be to Duck Lake or Sugar Lake, both in a hotspot of conifer diversity in the Russian Wilderness (Duck Lakes Botanical Area in Klamath National Forest). The early wildflowers will be fun also. The trails are challenging, but they are rewarding even if you go only part way. The trailheads are 4 miles south of Etna in the Scott Valley. Friday and Saturday nights we will stay at the primitive Forest Service campground at Scott Mountain Summit (a botanically wonderful place), or you may choose accommodations in Etna or Weaverville or anywhere in between. Sunday we will find a shorter hike to do before we head home. If you are thinking of coming, tell Carol, to learn the logistics (707-822-2015; theralphs@humboldt1.com).

**August 5, Sunday. Crogan Hole Day Hike.** East of Hoopa, in the western edge of the Trinity Alps Wilderness, Crogan Hole is not a "hole" in the ground. It is an area of meadows and a creek, with open, rocky slopes and outcrops above it offering beautiful views and wonderful plants. The trail is about 5 miles round trip, mostly on a contour at 5,400 foot elevation from the Mill Creek Lakes Trailhead in the Orleans District of Six Rivers National Forest (about 2.5 hours from Arcata). A portion of the trail is vast, brushy hillsides with gray snags pointing at the sky, a legacy of the 1999 Megram Fire. This hike is a portion of Hike #50 in Ken Burton's 55 Day Hikes in Northwest California. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School to carpool, or arrange another place. Return in the evening. Bring lunch, lots of water, and layers of clothing, to be ready for changeable, mountain weather. Please tell Carol you are coming (707-822-2015; theralphs@humboldt1.com).

**September 23, Sunday. Dead Lake Day Hike or Paddle.** Dead Lake is a deep, natural dune pond in the forested dunes of Tolowa Dunes State Park by Crescent City. It has plenty of floating and emergent vegetation, a good place to look for and practice identifying wetland plants. A reliable rumor says that Bogbean is there. We’ll find out! Details to be arranged. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Pacific Union School to carpool, or arrange a different place. Bring lunch and water and layers to be outdoors all day. Tell Carol you are coming, to be included in plans as they develop (like taking or renting canoes): 707-822-2015; theralphs@humboldt1.com

**August 4, Saturday. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Orchids in the Dunes.** Orchids are a very diverse group, including quite dainty species. Join Carol Ralph to learn about five species of orchid that live in the Lanphere Dunes. Four might be blooming. Walk 1-2 miles, partly on soft sand. Meet at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) to carpool to the protected site. Co-sponsored by CNPS and Friends of the Dunes. Call 444-1397 to RSVP.

**October 6, Saturday. Day Hike.** Destination to be announced.
CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

Evening Programs

Evening programs are free, public programs on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May, at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. and program at 7:30 p.m. For information or to suggest a speaker or topic contact Michael Kauffmann at 707-407-7686 /

Sep 12  "Tree Mortality, Uncertainty, and Forest Conservation in the West." How trees die is just as important as how they grow in shaping the forests that clothe our mountains, stable soil and watersheds, sequester carbon, and harbor wildlife. Phil van Mantgem, Research Ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Arcata, has been studying and enjoying forests in California and beyond since 1995. In this presentation Phil will share the latest research showing how patterns of tree mortality are changing in the western U.S., calling for changes in management of our forests.

Oct 10  "Champion Campions of Northwestern California" with Michael Mesler

Nov 14  Evening program to be announced

Dec 12  Evening program--probably Native Plant Show and Tell--various members share pictures and stories.

ANNUAL FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, September 22, 2018
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
(CNPS Member pre-sale 9-10)
(You can join on the spot)

Freshwater Farms Reserve
5851 Myrtle Ave., Eureka

Fall is the best time to plant!

Find a wide selection of native plants for sun, shade and in-between. Knowledgeable people will be on hand to help you find plants to benefit native pollinators as well as provide an attractive garden setting. Native gardening resources available.

Please bring your own box.

More information at NorthCoastCNPS.org
Stony Creek
7 April 2018
by Carol Ralph

The Stony Creek Trail, at the end of a road in Gasquet on Highway 199, is a long time favorite of botanizers. At present we owe thanks for this trail to Six Rivers National Forest and the Siskiyou Land Conservancy. SRNF owns the first part of the trail; SLC owns the downhill part and the actual parcel that the river junction is on. The serpentine influence in the soil discourages weedy species and results in a diverse mix of natives, including serpentine specialists.

The first weekend of April is still quite early spring. Many species were just unfurling, poking up, or swelling buds. The flower show was lined up along the trail. First, the Fairy Slipper (Calypso bulbosa) near the cars, then the pure white Sitka Valerian (Valeriana sitchensis), and then ... ta dah!.....the hundreds of fawn lilies, dancing in mossy beds along the trail. We measured styles on a good number of these flowers, finding them mostly just short of 10 mm, making them (according to The Jepson Manual) Lemon Fawn Lily (Erythronium citrinum), not California Fawn Lily (E. californicum), the other white fawn lily with mottled leaves. Soon followed the Oregon Anemone (Anemone oregana), white with a blush of blue. Down on the flat by the river the Deltoid Balsamroot’s (Balsamorhiza deltoidea) large, yellow flowers took over the show. Along the bouldery, boggy way upstream the dramatic leaves of California Pitcher Plant continually amazed, and on the rocky flats beyond first it was tiny-but-elegant violet (Viola sp.), then bright pink Shooting Star (Primula hendersonii), and then mats of variable pink Spreading Phlox (Phlox diffusa). It was a wonderful show; our eight botanizers enjoyed every minute, even when we had to put up our raincoat hoods.

East Fork Willow Creek
24 March 2018
by Carol Ralph

Three intrepid CNPSers optimistically interpreted an otherwise dreadful weather forecast and spent a lovely, short, though very cool day at East Fork Campground on the Willow Creek side of Berry Summit, along Highway 299 in Six Rivers National Forest. Without foliage on the Red Alders (Alnus rubra) the forest was spacious, the white trunks stately. The creek was full, crystal clear, rushing, and fresh between glowing, green, mossy banks.

The many lush, mossy, tangled banks at this site presented a rich array of green, rosetted plants, most lacking flowers to help with identification. The rock face right outside the (Continued on page 5)
gate, behind a pair of Pacific Yew (Taxus brevifolia) and Canyon Live Oak (Quercus chrysolepis), was especially charming, complete with a small waterfall. The green rosettes included Mertens' Saxifrage (Saxifraga mertensiana), the species abundant on many rock faces along Highway 299, Snow Queen (Synthyris reniformis), and California Romanzoffia (Romanzoffia californica). The day proved rich in the saxifrage family (Saxifragaceae), totaling four species—Mertens' Saxifrage, Small-flowered Alumroot (Heuchera micranthes), Fringecups (Tellima grandiflora), Piggyback Plant (Tolmiea diplomenziesii)—plus an unknown, if that other rosette turns out to be in this family.

The day was also rich in the miner's lettuce family (Montiaceae), for the extent they covered the gravelly, humus-filled substrate. These were Candyflower (Claytonia sibirica), Small-leaved Montia (Montia parvifolia), and Montia fontana. We have seen the rare Montia howellii here on other visits.

Western Trillium flowers (Trillium ovatum) bent under the weight of large water drops and probably from snow the night before. A few white Milkmaids (Cardamine californica) called attention to almost solid mats of this species' leaves.

Long rows of red dangles decorated the twigs of Sierra Gooseberry (Ribes roezlii), and long, tinsel-like catkins hung on the Beaked Hazelnut (Corylus cornuta ssp. californica).

Clusters of small, greenish flowers were bursting out of the ends of the opposite, green twigs of Black-fruitied Dogwood (Cornus sessilis). Farther up the narrow canyon magnificent, large Big-leaf Maples (Acer macrophyllum), Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii), and Port Orford-cedar (Chamaecyparis lawsoniana) added grandeur to the otherwise fast-paced life of the alders along the creek. A "field guide special" was finding Low Oregon Grape (Berberis nervosa) and Tall Oregon-grape (Berberis aquifolium) growing side-by-side, to compare their leaflet arrangements.

After walking the entire campground, we drove downhill a little farther and walked the trail at Boise Creek Campground as well. There a patch of deep red Indian Warrior (Pedicularis densiflorus) brightened the path.

Both these campgrounds are gated and locked over the rainy season, so that vehicles and people will not spread Port Orford-cedar root disease. Next time I go, I'll be sure to clean my boots and disinfect them. I don't want to be a disease vector! Our drive home over Berry Summit was through a winter wonderland, as big, slow, soft snowflakes piled up on everything. Spring is a confusing season!
How do you teach the public that some plants are native and some are not? You entice them with a glorious, fragrant show of wildflowers!

Our show has always been for everyone's enjoyment, but it does have an ulterior motive of educating them at the same time. This year we tried to focus docent encounters on being sure visitors understood that native plants are species that grew here before Europeans arrived and that many of the species they see in the wild are more recent arrivals, hence non-native. The labels on our show specimens show colored dots indicating native, non-native, or non-native and invasive. The first step to caring about native plants is to understand what they are. We hope we helped many people along that path.

Preparing this rich assemblage for the public and school groups to enjoy was the work of more than 84 volunteers! Every one did an important job. We thank...
MEMBERS’ CORNER

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS
PAUL ABELS / MARGARET ABELS
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DENNIS WALKER
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KENDALL WILLIAMS

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS
Support these local businesses and with proof of your North Coast membership, receive discounts on your purchases.

Greenlot Nursery, 10% discount on plants, 443-9484

Lost Foods Native Plant Nursery:
10% discount on plants, 268-8447, LostFoods.org

Mad River Gardens: 10% discount on plant purchases, 822-7049

Miller Farms: 5% discount on plant materials, 839-1571

Pierson’s Garden Shop, 10% discount on all garden shop items (except sale or non-discountable items—please ask staff before going to register), 441-2713

Samara Restoration LLC, 10% discount on plants, 834.4379 / samararestoration.com

JOIN CNPS!
To join or renew, you can either: send your name and address, check (payable to CNPS) CNPS, 2707 K St., Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816 or pay on-line CNPS.org
Communications

North Coast CNPS members have four ways to share information with each other:

- **EcoNews and You**
  
  We, the North Coast Chapter of CNPS, are a member organization of the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC), a valuable voice for conservation in our area. We have a seat on their board of directors. The NEC is the only organization with which we share our mailing list. We think it is important that our members receive EcoNews, an informative publication about conservation issues in our area. Our chapter pays NEC to mail EcoNews to our members who are not also NEC members. You can reduce this cost to our chapter by joining NEC at www.youmec.org or requesting your EcoNews be electronic (contact Gary Falxa at gfalxa@suddenlink.net).

- **Native Plant Consultation Service**
  
  Are you wondering which plants in your yard are native? Are you unsure if that vine in the corner is an invasive exotic? Would you like to know some native species that would grow well in your yard?

  The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society offers the Native Plant Consultation Service to answer these questions and to share our experiences gardening with natives. This service is free. We hope it will inspire you to join CNPS or make a donation.

  Contact our coordinator, Samantha O’Connell at 707-601-0650 or maineflower@gmail.com, who will put you in touch with a team of volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to your property to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.

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- The **Darlingtonia Newsletter** (quarterly).
- Our chapter’s website: www.northcoastcnps.org
- E-mail lists/forums To subscribe, send an e-mail to: Announcements: NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com / Gardening: NorthCoast_CNPS_Gardening-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS

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Steering Committee Members/Contacts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VOLUNTEER CORNER

Everything we do is with volunteer labor. Every job, small or large, is important for getting things done. We appreciate our many, talented, generous volunteers. You can be one too! Contact Carol at 707-822-2015 or theralphs@humboldt1.com

Thank you!

Nursery and Plant Sale volunteers and their energetic, talented leader Chris Beresford for tons of work producing and selling native plants. The nursery operation and the plant sales are both important and effective educational events, raising awareness of native plants, and they are both fun, making people welcome in the world of native plants! The sales also are the source of most of our chapter’s funds, making other activities possible. See the nursery article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Sydney Carothers, Carol Mone, Melanie Getman, and Sam O’Connell, the Plant Sign Angels, for making yet more species signs to put with plants for sale. The signs show customers what the plant will look like and tell its growing conditions.

Wildflower Show volunteers, all 84 of them, for a terrific Wildflower Show (See the Wildflower Show article elsewhere in this newsletter).

Karen Isa, Jon Hill, Barbara Reisman, ...............for staffing our table at the Humboldt Permaculture Guild’s Seed Exchange.

Karen Isa, Jon Hill, Sam O’Connell, Kathryn Johnson, Ann Burroughs, Barbara Reisman, Donna Wildearth, Carol Woods, Ron and Melanie Johnson, and Carol Ralph for staffing our table at Godwit Days.

Barbara Reisman and Karen Isa for staffing out table at Bee Fest.

Barbara Reisman for coordinating these tabling events.

Karen Isa, Chris Beresford, Ila Osborne, and Carol Ralph for hosting a visit of the Eureka-Sequoia Garden Club at our chapter nursery.

Karen Isa, Anna Bernard, and Carol Ralph for providing a delicious spread of treats at our volunteer social at the zoo, and to Nehaya for helping set up and clean up.

Dennis Walker, Wanda Naylor, Carol Ralph, Adam Canter, Elaine Allison, and Claire Brown for leading plant walks.

Gordon Leppig for organizing and presenting an informative and important sedge workshop.

Anita Gilbride-Read for meeting the many and varied challenges to master the job of treasurer.

Ann Wallace, Michael Kauffmann, Ned Forsyth, Tony LaBanca, and Greg O’Connell for answering the call to help Operation Free the Dudleya.

Help Needed contact Carol Ralph 707-822-2015 or theralphs@humboldt1.com

Publicity Coordinator. Have you noticed how many different ways we need to communicate our activities these days? Our newsletter, Econews, Times Standard, radio, websites, Facebook, flyers, other clubs, etc. We need someone to help our event planners by feeding the information to the appropriate places by the various deadlines. This is a well defined and VERY important job.

Wildflower Show Coordinator. We need a fourth person to take some of the planning-level responsibilities of the show. If you believe in the Wildflower Show as a terrific outreach and education event and want to assure its continuance and even growth, this is your chance to make a difference.

Nursery Liaison. A brief but important job, twice per year this person communicates by email with the 5 nurseries that bring plants to our sales, coordinating what species they bring. They then help inventory the plants when they arrive at the sale and when they leave, and arrange for the nurseries to be paid their share of the sales.

Workshop Chair. Organizes workshops, as many as desired on as varied topics as suggested.

Hospitality Assistant. Be responsible for refreshments for an evening program or other event and/or assist Melinda in same.

Help State Parks—Second Saturday Work Days Meet at 9:00 - work until noon

Second Saturdays of every month volunteers gather for “restoration work days” at either Trinidad State Beach or Patrick’s Point State Park. That usually means pulling English Ivy, a very satisfying, vigorous activity, which leaves an area looking better than when you arrived. Wear sturdy shoes for walking off trail. Gloves and tools are provided, or bring your own. Volunteers receive a free entrance to Patrick’s Point State Park. With questions call 677-3109 or write michelle.forys@parks.ca.gov.

Patrick’s Point State Park
Meet at the visitor center.
Sept. 8 ● Dec.8

Trinidad State Beach
Meet at the picnic area parking lot in Trinidad just off of Stagecoach Rd.
July 14 ● Aug. 11 ● Oct. 13 ● Nov. 10
Some volunteers were on company time from Green Diamond Resource Company, Caltrans, Six Rivers National Forest, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, for which we thank their employers for seeing the benefit of their botanists participating in this botanical orgy.

The volunteers who took responsibilities for various aspects of the show deserve extra thanks. Tony LaBanca and Laurel Goldsmith recruited, organized, and trained the collectors. Annie Reid, Joyce Jonte, and Patty Sennott led the Art Night workshop, attended by 31 people. Barbara Reisman organized the school visits on Friday. David Callow planted the big, yellow signs and most of the yard signs, as well as changing the lettering on them. Melinda Groom and Katy Allen made sure our volunteers had refreshments in the break room. Greg O’Connell manned the floor and ID table all weekend. Larry Levine made the flyer, designed the room lay-out, produced printed information, signs, and cards, managed the database and cards, and much more. Carol Ralph recruited volunteers and appreciated the great jobs they all did. Joyce Jonte deserves special mention for drawing the lupine art for our flyer on very short notice.
Our management team needs another person! For this show to go on, we seriously need a person to coordinate all these good managers, keep in touch with Jefferson Community Center, and be sure insurance, table rental, and publicity happen. The tasks are outlined, the team is in place. A rewarding job is waiting for someone. Help that someone find us. Contact Carol Ralph (707-822-2015) or Larry Levine (707-822-7190).
Darlingtonia

CALENDAR of EVENTS
(Field Trips—pg 2 / Programs—pg 3)

July
♦ 6-8 Day Hike

August
♦ 4 Plant Walk
♦ 5 Day Hike

September
♦ 12 Program
♦ 22 Plant Sale
♦ 23 Day Hike

October
♦ 6 Day Hike
♦ 10 Program

November
♦ 14 Program

December
♦ 12 Program

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