

## TALK ON SERPENTINE PLANT ECOLOGY, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, AT ANNUAL MEETING IN MAY

DBS members attending the annual meeting on May 23 elected a new slate of board officers to lead the society in the coming year (slate listed at right). We welcome incoming officers Leslie Gottlieb (President-Elect) and Layne Huiet (Secretary).

Before the election, President Art Shapiro summarized the year's activities and thanked outgoing Board members Jean Shepard and Judy Jernstedt.

Members then enjoyed a presentation on serpentine soils and their plant communities by Dr. Susan Harrison. Susan's presentation highlighted her most recent research on the factors contributing

to species richness in serpentine plant communities, especially the roles played by disturbance and nutrient levels. The evening concluded with refreshments and conversation that lasted until 10 pm..

Calendars for the coming year (2002-2003) will be mailed in September. Upcoming field trips will include a fall field trip to the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada and a vernal pool field trip in April. Keep a look out also for your membership renewal, which will be mailed to you in October.

Thank you for your continued support!

*K. Mawdsley and E. Dean*

## LASTHENIA

LASTHENIA, the Newsletter of the Davis Botanical Society, is published by the Society in collaboration with the staff of the UC Davis Herbarium and Botanical Conservatory.

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*Contributors:* E. Dean, E. Griswold, K. Mawdsley, T. Metcalf, G.L. Webster

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# LASTHENIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE DAVIS BOTANICAL SOCIETY

## RECENT PROJECTS DEMONSTRATE THE MANY USES OF HERBARIA

The Herbarium had a wide variety of visitors with major projects this year, and their work illustrates the many uses and value of our collections and other resources.

Once again, the Vernal Pool Research Team came by in April to borrow presses and a field microscope for their work cataloging the vegetation and hydrology of vernal pools throughout California. This project, now in its second year under the leadership of Michael Barbour and Carol Witham, seeks to create a new vernal pool classification system. The team is comprised of researchers from several different countries, including Spain, South Africa and Russia. In the spring and summer of 2001, they used the herbarium extensively, first to review vernal pool species and then to identify voucher specimens collected during the project.

Some of those involved with the Vernal Pool Research Team this year used the herbarium for other research projects. Frequent visitor Daniel Sanchez-Mata, professor in the Pharmacy faculty of the Universidad Complutense at Madrid, used the Herbarium as a base for his ongoing research on the vegetation of serpentine plant communities. This was Daniel's third trip since a sabbatical year in 1996 when he began work with Michael Barbour. Their research involved comparing the European "phytosociological" system of vegetation classification with the

## GROUND-BREAKING BRINGS NEW HERBARIUM CLOSER



*Dean Peter Rocke, John Tucker, Dean Phyllis Wise, Associate Dean Tom Rost, Sheila Eghbali, and Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef turn the ceremonial shovels.*

Butterfly nets topped the shovels as ground was ceremonially broken for the new Sciences Laboratory Building, future home of the UC Davis Herbarium, on May 27. The heat of the late May sun abbreviated remarks, but several speakers singled out the Herbarium in praising the project. Division of Biological Sciences Associate Dean Tom Rost noted that it will be among the most modern facilities of its kind in the nation, and Professor emeritus John Tucker gave brief glimpses of some of the history of the herbarium at Davis and examples of projects completed here. Fund-raising for the project continues; contact Ellen Dean at the Herbarium or Jackie Schad at the Division of Biological Sciences (754-9253) for further information.

systems used in the US, using serpentine communities as the test case. Daniel has also traveled and collected in the Pacific Northwest with his major professor, eminent geobotanist Salvador Rivas-Martinez, and other Spanish collaborators. Specimens from all his North American work have been donated to our herbarium. He looks forward to future work in California's high altitude serpentine communities and to the possible

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## Conservatory

This past November, Dr. Eva Bayon joined the Conservatory staff in conjunction with a Genetic Resources Conservation Grant dedicated to archive labeling the plants in the Conservatory collection. She has finished the daunting task of verifying and updating the names of all the specimens in the succulent collection, the largest and most diverse collection, and the collection with the most brittle sun-degraded plastic pot labels. Her work paves the way for ordering and inserting

permanent weatherproof photoengraved labels. She will now complete the name checking for the rest of the collections.

Because of budget constraints, some of the University's outreach programs were cut this year. However the Conservatory's school season was still busy with 1,400 K-12 student visitors. Group size often swells beyond our guideline of 20 students, which we further divide into three smaller groups. One morning, sixty third graders who had been scheduled to come in three groups of twenty at different times were massed all at once outside our door. The

greenhouse rooms and corridors were packed beyond comfort and ease of communication, but the students were responsive and the tour guides high energy, so the event was successful. When the organizers asked if they could bring in more sixty-plus groups, we declined.

The Conservatory is ideal for college class tours as well, with some university students come from far afield. The University of Florida Horticulture Club (on a tour of the California horticulture industry) visited May 11. The tour was arranged by Bart Schutzman, a former Conservatory intern who received his Ph.D. at UF studying the systematics of Mexican *Zamias* under the direction of Bijan Dehgan. Bijan, one of Grady Webster's students, directed the Conservatory in the sixties and seventies.

When time permits, we go out of this area to give presentations on Conservatory collections and programs. I gave a presentation to the Bay Area Carnivorous Plant Society on "High Tech Greenhouses and Low Tech Alternatives." It was followed by a tour led by the UCB garden staff of the new million-dollar greenhouse housing their succulent collections.

This is the first full season with new high intensity (HID) lights in the Conservatory. The added light intensity stimulates strong synchronous flowering of some rare Socotran succulents. Ernesto has taken advantage of this propitious occasion with diligent pollination and seed collecting. The resulting seeds are on their way to other institutions and collectors, including the one who sent us the plants from Socotra in 1967.

The Conservatory relies heavily on volunteers and interns. This year, there have been thirty volunteers doing everything from teaching internship sessions to sweeping the floors; volunteers range from internationally known Ph.Ds to local junior high students. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 753-0569.

T. Metcalf

## Herbarium

At the end of May, we celebrated the end of a very productive academic year. Over 5,000 specimens were mounted by our numerous student assistants. In ad-

## SOCIETY PROFILES

Eric Grissell



### DR. E. ERIC GRISELL, DONOR OF THE DAVIS BOTANICAL SOCIETY GRISELL STUDENT GRANT

The Profile section of *Lasthenia* usually features a board officer or other local member of the society. We are making an exception in this issue, in order to profile one of our strongest supporters. Dr. E. Eric

Grissell, a USDA systematic entomologist specializing in parasitic wasps, has worked for over 20 years in the Systematic Entomology Laboratory at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. In a combination very familiar to people at land-grant institutions, his assignment includes both basic research on identification and revision of the 20,000 species in his taxonomic group and a public service component of identifying specimens from North America and beyond; he also responds to inquiries about names, distributions and other information from faculty, graduate students and others. Dr. Grissell and other USDA scientists in his group curate and maintain the Smithsonian's collections, including making loans worldwide, in return for the use of the facilities. All in all, his work sounds very familiar to anyone who spends time in the Davis herbarium, except that his specimens aren't flattened and neatly attached to sheets.

While his professional activities are familiar to any taxonomist, Eric's avocations are more accessible to the amateur plant person. He is the author of several books and numerous articles on gardening and garden ecology, as well as an enthusiastic gardener at his home in suburban Maryland. The title of the first book, *Thyme on My Hands* (1986, Timber Press), gives a flavor (pun intended) of the personal voice and fondness for word-play characteristic of what he calls "creative non-fiction." Quick-witted, often self-directed humor laces his account of establishing and living with his gardens.

His most recent book, *Insects and Gardens: in Pursuit of a Garden Ecology* (2001, Timber Press), uses his knowledge of entomology along with the same pleasure with language and sense of the absurd to present a serious and carefully thought out argument for the gardener's understanding the role of insects in nature and the garden and ways to work with insects as allies,

continued on page 8

continued on page 7

## USES OF HERBARIA (CONT FROM PAGE 1)

development of a course at UC Davis on the European and North American systems of vegetation classification.

Carol Dubbins Hahn, a scientific illustrator from Georgia, is in Davis from April until August working with herbarium specimens from the renowned oak collection developed by John Tucker. She is preparing drawings for a study of oaks of the world by Guy Sternberg. Carol is mainly using our specimens to illustrate species from North America and Mexico; she is also working with a limited number of specimens we requested for her from the San Diego Museum of Natural History. Carol has appreciated the enormous help Dr. Tucker has provided, as well as the welcoming friendliness of the Herbarium staff.

Not all the researchers using the herbarium this spring have come from afar. Kathren Murrell, a student in the Plant Biology Graduate Group, and her research assistant Jessica Moeller, spent months using the scopes and plant collections to confirm identifications on about 2,000 specimens collected in the Lake Tahoe area over two field seasons for a study of the biodiversity of Sierra montane meadows. Kathren is studying variation in species distribution as related to moisture and characterizing the rarity or commonness of the plant communities; in ecological terms, she is studying "niche partitioning" among meadow plants. She will combine the Lake Tahoe data with datasets from a Forest Service grazing study in the Southern Sierra with which she assisted several years ago and another unanalyzed Forest Service study of the Inyo National Forest for her dissertation. Kathren will be depositing a set of her specimens at DAV.

Kathren Murrell brought her collection to compare against our reference specimens, a very standard occurrence. Jason Bradford, in contrast, arranged for the Herbarium to host his personal collections and those borrowed from other herbaria when he and his family returned to Davis after he completed his doctorate in systematics at Washington University and the Missouri Botanic Garden. (He and his

wife, a Davis native, are both UCD grads; she is now a physician with Kaiser.) He continues his systematic study while working for the botanic garden investigating research applications of taxonomy for conservation.



*The vernal pool group in the field*

The increasing availability of online floras and other digital tools for plants and the possible adaptation of pattern recognition software to plant identification offer the prospect of applying systematic information in conservation efforts. Specimen records provide data on distribution which can be mapped and digitized and used with digital maps of threatened habitat and factors such as soils and climate to determine priority areas for study or protection. Jason is using his own research in *Pancheria*, a New Caledonian endemic species in the Cunoniaceae, as a model to develop methods for this path-breaking effort. He will also be building our holdings in the Cunoniaceae.

All those approached for this article asked that their appreciation of the assistance, accommodations, space and other services offered by Herbarium staff be reported. We may be crowded, but it's a pleasant place to work. From the local perspective, visiting researchers enliven and inform the intellectual life of the herbarium; they validate and frequently enrich its holdings.

*K. Mawdsley*

## RECENT GIFTS TO NAMED FUNDS

### Jack Major Memorial Fund

ABR, Inc.  
James & Hilde Aune  
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Trudy M. Baltz &  
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Jobyna Kingsbury-Gankin  
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Frank & Yae Ogasawara  
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James & Nancy Pollock  
Eleanor Roosevelt  
James & Helen Rowe  
Amanda Schuster  
John Schuyler & Priscilla Franco  
Lenore Steiner & George Mealy  
TMR Scientific  
Alice R. Taylor  
Eleanor Taylor

### June McCaskill Memorial Fund

Susanne I. Armstrong  
Gerald & Barbara Carr  
Elizabeth & Raymond Corbin  
Lewis J. Feldman  
Sterling M. Leisz  
John & Marilyn Vankat

*Thank you*

# FIELD TRIPS FUTURE AND PAST

## FUTURE:

**Sierra Valley, Oct. 19, 2002**  
**Leader: Art Shapiro**

Sierra Valley, located on Hwy. 89 just east of Yuba Pass, 25 miles north of Lake Tahoe, is a floristically rich area presenting a unique mix of Sierran and Great Basin elements. It has the southernmost extension of the north-eastern California flora as well. There is permanent water in the center of the valley, which provides for a rich waterfowl fauna and the southernmost breeding colony of Sandhill Cranes in the world. The valley becomes progressively drier to the northeast, and the flora becomes increasingly desertic. The Fall 2002 field trip, again led by Art Shapiro, will include a visit to the marshes, featuring an isolated colony of the rare and local mare's tail (*Hippurus vulgaris*). But the emphasis will be on the great variety of perennial and shrubby fall-flowering Composites, including an extraordinary diversity of rabbitbrushes and horsebrushes. Sierra Valley is a scenic area of working ranches and looks much more like Montana or Idaho than what most of us think of as California. Bring your camera!

## PAST:

**Cold Canyon mosses, Jan. 19th, 2002**  
**Leader: Rob Weiss**

We had another great winter field trip to Stebbins Cold Canyon this past January,



Glen Holstein examining a moss during our January trip

when Rob Weiss led 20 would-be moss enthusiasts among the rocks and trees. Rob provided an informative hand-out with a key to the common species of mosses, and he patiently reviewed their characteristics (over and over and over and over again). By the end, we were all able to identify the most common species, and we adjourned to the Putah Creek Café in Winters for some hot soup. We hope to lead another moss or lichen trip this coming winter. Check your mail for last-minute announcements!

**Table Mountain, April 13, 2002**  
**Leaders: Kate Mawdsley, Evelyn Healy, and Ernesto Sandoval**



Botanizing on Table Mountain

The well-known spring floral hotspot just north of Oroville was near its peak when the Botanical Society contingent arrived, armed with multiple copies of Oswald's *Manual of the Vascular Plants of Butte County* and Jokerst's flora for Table Mountain. Brilliant swaths of miniature lupine (*Lupinus nanus*) mixed with popcorn flower (*Plagiobothrys stipitatus*) and narrow-leaved owl's clover (*Castilleja attenuata*) dominated the grasslands, while bitterroot (*Lewisia rediviva*) and Douglas' violet (*Viola douglasii*) were outstanding on volcanic outcrops. We wandered in several informal groups, we picnicked, we keyed and photographed through grasslands, along streams, over rocks and near drying vernal pools. Reuniting at a landmark oak, we shared floristic highlights of a rich day.

**Mendocino Pass, June 29, 2002**  
**Leader: Art Shapiro**



Monument plant, the star of the trip to Mendocino Pass

Three vanloads of DBS members knew they were in for a long day, but the chance to botanize the Inner Coast Range with Art Shapiro was bound to be worth it. And no matter what you were looking for, it was. Swarms of hybrid oaks; tinker's penny, lady's tresses and *Lotus nevadense* at a seep; probably a half-dozen penstemons (lacking a detailed local flora with keys, it was a good day for identification to genus); and more swarms of intergrading shrubs, this time manzanita. Among the many stops, Plaskett Meadows, where we had lunch, was probably the most colorful, with Art's oddball shooting star and dense spires of blue-pod lupine (*Lupinus polyphyllus*) coming into bloom. Snow Basin meadow, the next stop, offered a hillside of bleeding heart and a blooming monument plant (*Swertia speciosa*), a life plant for several of us, along with lots of tantalizing miniatures. We found seedpods of *Phoenicaulis cheiranthoides* at the summit of Mendocino Pass about 5 p.m. and turned around, our "to-see" list complete. Dinner became a deli sandwich at Granzella's, and it was 10:30 by the time we returned to Davis. But all the farewells were happy. Thanks, Art, for sharing spots, plants and pollinators we'd never have found on our own.

A. Shapiro, E. Dean, K. Mawdsley

## NEW T-SHIRTS AND TOTE BAGS AVAILABLE!



Be the first on your block to get the ultimate in botanizing apparel! All-cotton short-sleeved shirts featuring the Davis Botanical Society's new logo are now available in four stylish color combinations. Color choices include white or natural shirts with a dark green logo or sage green or medium blue shirts with a black logo. Shirts come in Small, Medium, Large, and Extra Large sizes and cost \$13 for members and \$15 for non-members.

The cotton canvas tote bags are perfectly suited to carrying around your favorite flora. These natural-colored totes feature the Davis Botanical Society's new logo in dark green ink. The bags are smaller than grocery bags and measure 14 inches wide, 14 inches high, and three inches deep. Get yours today for only \$15!

T-shirts and tote bags are for sale at the Herbarium during regular hours, 10 to 4, Monday to Friday. And they'll be available at our program events as well.

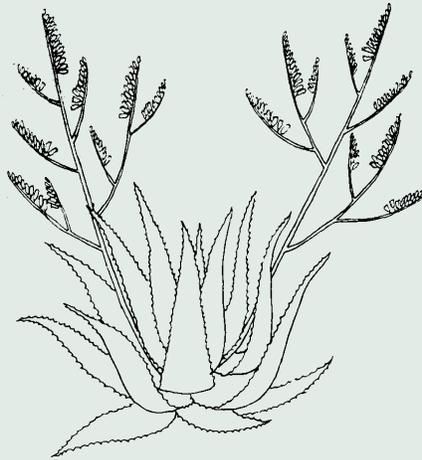
*E. Griswold*

## 2002 STUDENT GRANTS AWARDED

Four grants of \$500 each have been awarded to students engaged in projects which demonstrate the range of current research in plant systematics and ecology. Grants were increased in value this year, thanks to an increase in DBS membership income and the generosity of donors to several named grant funds.

Jennifer Buck, a Masters' degree student, is working with Michael Barbour (Environmental Horticulture) on a multi-year project to develop a California vernal pool classification system based on vegetation community types. The E. Eric Grissell grant will support Jennifer's project to examine the "range of annual and seasonal variations in vernal pool species composition and abundance."

Kevin Carpenter, a plant systematics student working with Geerat Vermeij (Geology), is examining the evolution of early angiosperm groups, using leaf morphology as well as DNA



*Aloe secundiflora*  
Elizabeth King's research subject

sequences. Kevin, who was awarded this year's Stebbins grant, is also co-author with Grady Webster of a forthcoming article on pollen morphology in neotropical *Phyllanthus*.

Elizabeth Gallant King was awarded the Larry Mitich grant for her project studying the genus *Aloe* in East Africa. The project combines study of threatened succulent aloes with investigation of their use as

nurse plants to restore grasses in overgrazed areas and as a sustainable crop to diversify the local economy. Elizabeth will be working with local non-profit groups and the National Museums of Kenya in her project, under Maureen Stanton's direction.

J. Rick Topinka, a student of Bernie May (Animal Science) receives the Davis Botanical Society award for a study of the phylogenetics and phytogeography of genus *Amsonia* in the southwestern US and Mexico. He will collect specimens and samples from multiple morphologically and geographically representative populations of all currently recognized non-endangered taxa and use molecular methods to restudy relationships among them. Rick's work has implications for conservation biology as well as for systematics.

Congratulations to this year's award recipients!

*K. Mawdsley*

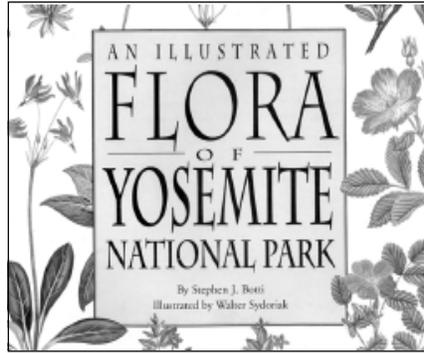
## BOTANICAL CORNUCOPIA

**An Illustrated Flora of Yosemite National Park.** By Steve J. Botti, with illustrations by Walter Sydoriak. Yosemite Association, Yosemite National Park, CA. 484 pp. 2001. ISBN 0-939666-98-7. \$125.00.

California has been blessed with a large number of professional botanists and an even larger number of enthusiastic amateurs. Not surprisingly, there have been more floras and field guides published for California than for any other state. In addition to the floras of California as a whole, beginning with the *Geological Survey of California: Botany* (1876, 1880) and culminating in the *Jepson Manual of the Higher Plants of California* (1993), there have been many works of more limited scope: floras of regions and counties, guides to trees and shrubs, ornamental and useful plants, etc.

The first floristic manual for Yosemite, *A Yosemite Flora* by Harvey M. Hall—later renowned for his pioneering research in experimental taxonomy—

and his wife Carlotta, appeared in 1912. This classic work, which has been admired by many subsequent writers, was apparently completed in only two years. Its format of text with small page size and marginal line drawing figures



anticipated that of Jepson's *Manual of the Flowering Plants of California* and probably other later floras. Regrettably, it appears not to have been reprinted, and the only copy in the U. C. Davis Shields Library is sequestered in the Special Collections Department. After 90 years, it would still make a useful

field guide for plants of Yosemite if the nomenclature could be revised.

*An Illustrated Flora of Yosemite National Park* differs from all of its predecessor California floras in its larger page size (13 X 11 inches) and the elegance of Walter Sydoriak's remarkable colored illustrations. It is clear that the Yosemite Association in El Portal has taken great pains to produce a memorably outstanding volume on California plants. The verso of the title page notes that Steven P. Medley coordinated the project, with printing done by Precision Litho in Salt Lake City and binding by the Roswell Bindery in Phoenix. In addition to Peter Raven's introduction, there is a two-page list of Benefactors that indicates the extent of the financial assistance that was needed to make publication possible. The book is appropriately dedicated to Carl Sharsmith for his remarkable 63 years of study and interpretation of the Yosemite flora. In the acknowledgments, in addition to thanking members of the Jepson Herbarium for assistance, the

## DIRECTORS' CORNER (CONT FROM PAGE 2)

dition, Jean Shepard and Rebecca Wenk, a graduating senior, obtained label information and made labels for several important collections from the 1960s and 1970s, including those of Roman Gankin, Don Kyhos, and Charles Lamouroux. Rebecca has now left us for a summer internship at the Harvard Herbaria, but we are happy to welcome Mark Bibbo, Laura Wynholds, Leah Miller, and Jessica Moeller. Mark, a horticulture graduate student and assistant curator at the Arboretum, is helping us with our floras of McLaughlin and Quail Ridge reserves. Laura, Leah, and Jessica are going through our collection management training for the summer and will help us with numerous curation projects.

Jean Shepard has been making great strides in sorting through our backlog of "orphaned" collections – those lacking label data. She has also done a wonderful job of keeping our insect infestations under control. Several

times over this past spring, the temperature in the herbarium soared to 85 degrees, a temperature that encourages our ever-present herbarium beetles to breed. Patiently, she continues to freeze infested specimens, utilizing a walk-in freezer in the food science department, as well as four freezers in Robbins Hall. We are now freezing collections for much longer periods, sometimes as long as a month. We are very eager to move to new climate-controlled quarters, so that freezing specimens is no longer such a time-consuming task.

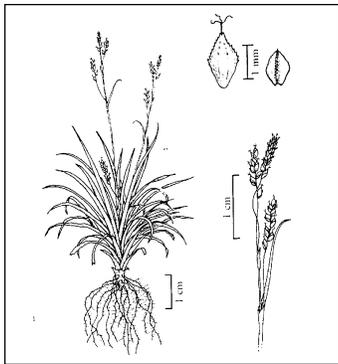
Ellen (yours truly) has been busy running workshops, teaching California Floristics and Ethnobotany, fundraising, and administering this past year. This coming year, however, I have a sabbatical of sorts – one day a week I will work only on research on the tomato family (Solanaceae). This arrangement will probably continue for the long term, if it proves successful. I will also be doing less university teaching in the future, allowing me to work more on developing

herbarium programs.

We are extremely fortunate to continue to have several very active volunteers. Denny Nolet continues his work refolding and curating our general collections. Linda Wheeler has been creating works of art from plants collected and pressed on campus (especially the conservatory). Kate Mawdsley, along with many other duties, has been filing the 5,000 specimens our students mounted and finished the labeling of the folders of the viticulture herbarium. Kate and Bill McCoy have been working very hard on our library, putting new laserprinter-generated call numbers on all our books, and Layne Huiet continues to curate our fern collection. We are very grateful to our volunteers for their hard work, and we are always in need of more people to help us with herbarium work, especially label-making and specimen mounting. If you would like to volunteer, please call us at 752-1091.

E. Dean

authors recognize the help in determining specimens by the Davis Herbarium staff (including Ellen Dean, June McCaskill, Fred Hrusa, Jean Shepard, and this reviewer).



*Carex tiogana*, drawn by Leslie Randall

The introductory section includes a colored map of Yosemite National Park indicating specific locations and vegetation zones. A brief guide to terminology and use of keys is provided. In his introduction, Peter Raven notes that in the 300 square kilometers of Yosemite National Park there have been recorded 466 genera with 1,338 species, of which only 127 are introduced: a very rich flora for a temperate area of this size. Apparently there are no strictly endemic or rare and endangered species. The differences in species diversity in the vegetation zones are interesting: 431 species (23% introduced) in the chaparral/oak woodland; 922 (13% introduced) in the mixed conifer belt; 541 (1% introduced) in the montane belt; 543 (0.5% introduced) in the subalpine belt; and 305 species (none introduced) in the alpine tundra. Incidentally, it is a testimony to the indefatigable efforts of the early plant collectors (beginning with Steven Brewer in 1863) that in the Halls' *Yosemite Flora* of 90 years ago about 1,200 species were already recorded.

The arrangement of taxa in the body of the text follows that of the *Jepson Manual*, with all taxa listed alphabetically. The species descriptions are brief but appear adequate, and are followed by notes on habitat and elevation. The short essays at the end of each description mention salient localities where the species can be seen, as well as helpful comments on distinguishing confusingly related species. All

species are illustrated in color, except for three monocot families: Cyperaceae, Juncaceae, and Poaceae, which have line drawings by Leslie Randall. The integration of the colored illustrations with the keys and species descriptions is very effective. The text-and-flower picture format is delightfully reminiscent of illustrated herbals such as the *Hortus Eystattensis*. For several genera (e.g., *Astragalus*, *Calochortus*, *Collinsia*, *Lewisia*, and *Rubus*) illustrations of all the Yosemite species are displayed on facing pages when the book is spread open. The text/illustration format should also be effective for keying species in genera that run to several pages, such as *Lupinus*, *Mimulus*, *Penstemon*, and *Trifolium*. Although the technical details of flowers are not illustrated as completely as in the *Jepson Manual*, the integration of text and illustration in the *Illustrated Yosemite Flora* will make it considerably faster to determine species in genera such as *Lotus*. Another useful feature that is absent in the *Jepson Manual* is provided by the colored illustrations of introduced genera such as *Anagallis*, *Gaillardia*, *Mollugo*, and *Tribulus* (exotics in the *Jepson Manual* are not illustrated).

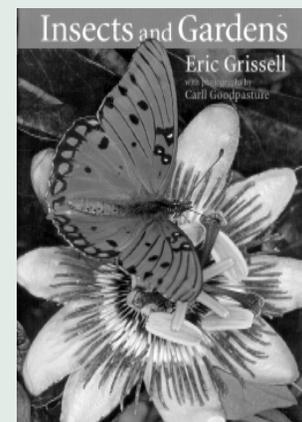
Although it is at the opposite pole of portability from the Halls' *Yosemite Flora*, Niehaus's *Sierra Wildflowers*, or Weeden's *Sierra Nevada Flora*, the *Illustrated Flora of Yosemite* should be very useful for determining plants when they have been brought back to the cabin or herbarium. In addition to the beautiful illustrations, at the end of the book there is a useful illustrated glossary; and besides the General Index—which includes both Latin and common plant names—there is a helpful index to geographic localities. The only obvious omission is the lack of a bibliography, which would be helpful in directing the reader towards additional background material on geology, ecology, ethnobotany, and specialized works on plants of particular interest.

The authors, the Yosemite Association, and the advisers and benefactors who helped support preparation of this beautiful volume can all take pride in the publication of this landmark publication in California botany.

G. L. Webster

## SOCIETY PROFILES (CONT FROM PAGE 2)

rather than as enemies to be exterminated. He states the goal early on: "If we work with the laws of nature, we have a much better chance of developing a garden that functions as a balanced, naturalistic system should." Over 100 remarkable close-up photographs of insects on flowers illustrate the book; the photographer is Carl Goodpasture, who completed an entomology doctorate at UC Davis.



And Eric Grissell's connection to UC Davis and the Herbarium? He did his graduate work here, and relates that he considered botany before concluding that there would be more opportunities in entomology. He took a number of botany courses and worked with Jack Major, Don Kyhos, and Grady Webster; he recalls June McCaskill's help in using the herbarium. For a project on insects that attack oaks, John Tucker was especially helpful and encouraging. Grissell reports he recently named a new species in Dr. Tucker's honor. The welcoming assistance he received in the Herbarium and his belief in the value of field study in graduate work have led Dr. Grissell to support a student research grant since very shortly after the program began. This exceptional generosity was completely unsolicited; a check designated for the program simply appeared in the mail one day and has been renewed annually. In grateful recognition, the grant is now given in his name.

K.F. Mawdsley