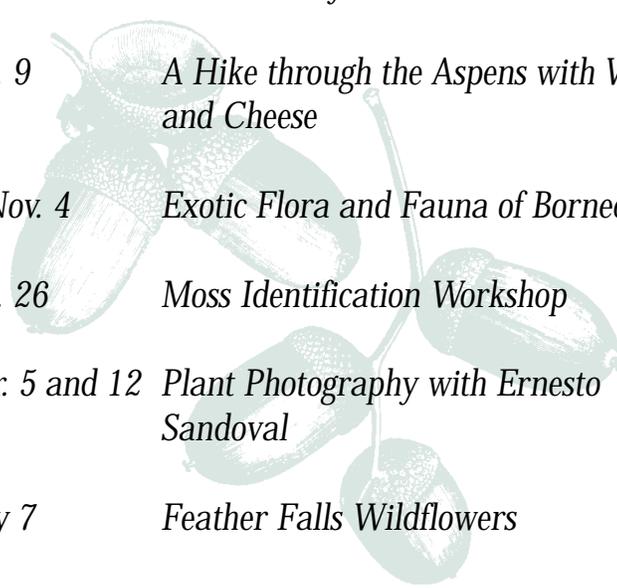


## This Year's Event Highlights

- 
- Fri., Oct. 1*            *Conservatory Plant Pre-Sale*
- Sat., Oct. 9*            *A Hike through the Aspens with Wine and Cheese*
- Thurs., Nov. 4*        *Exotic Flora and Fauna of Borneo*
- Sat., Feb. 26*         *Moss Identification Workshop*
- Sat., Mar. 5 and 12* *Plant Photography with Ernesto Sandoval*
- Sat., May 7*            *Feather Falls Wildflowers*
- Sat., May 19*         *Evolution of Silverswords*

## 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.

### OFFICERS

*President:* Dan Potter

*President-elect:* Ernesto Sandoval

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# LASTHENIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE DAVIS BOTANICAL SOCIETY

## PICNIC DAY WILDFLOWER EXHIBIT SAYS GOODBYE TO ROBBINS HALL



Visitors on April 17th in 184 Robbins Hall

Somewhere in our last issue of *Lasthenia*, I should have alerted our more nostalgic members that the Herbarium Picnic Day Wildflower Exhibit, held on April 17th, 2004, would be the last show to be held in 184 Robbins Hall. Whatever we do for Picnic Day in 2005 will happen in the new Sciences Laboratory Building.

For those of you who don't understand what I am talking about ... Every April for decades, Herbarium staff and volunteers have organized a room full of wild-collected California flowers, with each species labeled as to common and Latin name. (Many of these specimens are also used in the California Floristics lab sections during the spring quarter). This year, we also had herbarium specimen exhibits—on California ethnobotany, vernal pool plants, and Hmong food plants—and a hands-on display on keying plants. The room looked beautiful, and we had



Kate Mawdsley in action at the wildflower show

more visitors than we have ever had – at least 1,000 people trooped by.

The exact origins of our Wildflower Exhibit are lost in the fog of history; but John Tucker remembers Picnic Day displays pre-dating Robbins Hall. In those days, the faculty and students would put on beautiful displays just to put on beautiful displays. In fact one of the graduate students in the pre-Robbins Hall days (Jim Dunning – father of local Davis columnist Bob Dunning) would go to San Francisco and load up on orchids to

continued on page 5

## HERBARIUM MOVE SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER

Herbarium users, please heed this final warning... don't expect to be able to use the herbarium in November! The compact storage system for the new facility has been ordered from Yamada Enterprises (a vendor for Montel systems); the new cases have been ordered from Viking Metal in Chicago. Our current plans are for a very intensive moving effort from early to late November. Collections will be unavailable during that time, and perhaps for some time thereafter. If you are interested in helping with the move, let us know. We need you.

*E. Dean*



Wildflowers and herbarium specimens filled the room

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## Conservatory has New Titan Bloom!

Much has been happening at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory since our last report. By the time you read this we will have just finished with the second-ever flowering of an *Amorphophallus titanum* plant here at the Conservatory. We nicknamed this year's plant Tabatha. Thousands of visitors filed through the Conservatory to view Tabatha from August 5-16. The inflorescence bract (the spathe) opened on Friday, the 13th, with her stench reaching full strength that evening at 11 p.m. We pollinated her the morning of Saturday, the 14th. The spathe began to close within hours of pollination, she released her own pollen that evening, and by Sunday the 15th, she was beginning to fade. Two



Tabatha on August 13th. Photo Ernesto Sandoval.

days later, her spadix had wilted. Her final height on August 13th as measured from the top of the spadix was an astounding 60.5 inches (Ted, last year's plant, was 43 inches tall at bloom).

Tabatha's delayed bloom allowed us to prepare fully for her opening. In addition to preparing for the crowds, by providing signage throughout campus and clearing out plant benches in that area of the Conservatory, we had live coverage via webcam which was available on the internet (similar to last year). We also had detailed

webpage documentation, much of it written by interns Annie Dubrovskaya and Emerson Chen. If you are interested in more photos and information, see our webpage (<http://greenhouse.ucdavis.edu/conservatory.htm>). Ernesto will continue to post photos keeping track of the fruit



Tabatha from above. Photo Ernesto Sandoval

development at <http://homepage.mac.com/planthead667/Titan2004/PhotoAlbum36.html>. The resources to make the webcam were made available through the Provost's office. With over 10,000 visits to the webcam from far off places such as the eastern US, Canada, and even Europe, this event has proved to be the single largest "positive" publicity event for the University in the past 12 months!

While Tabatha lay dormant for the last few months at the south end of the conservatory, many things were going on around her. Over 1500 visitors came through on 77 tours of the collection during Spring quarter alone! Throughout the year over 3600 people came through on 187 guided tours. Almost half of these tours were for university students. To improve the visitor experience and avoid congestion in the narrow aisles of our aging structure, tours were sub-divided into two and sometimes three smaller groups of no more than 15 people. Much of the time either Tim or Ernesto conducted one of those smaller tours. With a loss

of University outreach funds this year, we had fewer intern staff and were unable to divide the groups as much as we would like.

Besides the tours, hundreds of visitors came to the Conservatory during our annual Open House in February and Picnic Day in April. A steady stream of people moved through the Conservatory as the rain streamed down on outdoor exhibits.

Lectures are another important function of our outreach efforts, and Ernesto made a trip to Miami University in Ohio in February to lecture on the Natural History of Baja California's portion of the Sonoran desert. There's more to that story, both prologue and sequel, than is immediately apparent.

Dan Gladish, PhD '95, professor of Botany at Miami's Hamilton campus, was a graduate student in Tom Rost's lab at UCD and served as a young undergraduate Ernesto's first mentor. Last summer, Dan visited the Conservatory to "pick our brains" about greenhouse structures. He had submitted a proposal for a modest Conservatory at the Hamilton campus with the hopes of exciting students and the general public there as the UCD Conservatory does in our region. A local banker had discovered the project and asked Dan to make it much bigger! We are hoping to build a bigger Conservatory in the near future, so the cross-pollination of knowledge has been great. Recently Dan came to Davis again to work with us for three weeks, conducting greenhouse tours and learning how to run the conservatory scheduled to be built by Spring 2005.

Finally, while Tabatha was in the limelight, Conservatory staff received word from the Elvina J. Slosson Fund committee of the award of a major grant to label drought tolerant plantings around the new Sciences Laboratory Building scheduled for completion this fall. Learn more about this from the article by curator Ernesto Sandoval on page 4.

*T. Metcalf and E. Sandoval*

## Herbarium

Since spring, Jean Shepard, our wonderful curatorial student assistants

*continued on page 7*

## VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE - APPLY SOON!

Have you ever wondered how the Davis Botanical Society functions? The Board believes it would function better with a few more decision makers. Specifically, we would like to fill the following volunteer positions. If one of these arouses your interest or taps a talent you're happy to share, call the herbarium at 530-752-1091 or email Ellen at eadean@ucdavis.edu:

1) **Field trip coordinator.** Every year we offer three or four field trips.

The coordinator would solicit ideas from our membership and others for good places to visit, then recruit one or more field-trip leaders for each trip, prepare directions for drivers, reserve vans if needed, and get a trip description to our publicity coordinator and flier designer at least six weeks ahead of the trip. The coordinator would also make sure that the trip leaders understand how to lead a well-planned trip, one with sufficient rest

stops and breaks as well as some sort of plant list or interpretive material.

2) **Flier designer.** Every time we have an event, we send out a flier to our members as a reminder that the event is coming up. Our flier designer would take information that the field trip coordinator and others provide and use it to design a flier for distribution. The designer will have access to the Herbarium's computers for this job (and the templates of our past fliers). Knowledge of Microsoft Word is essential.

3) **Mailing party participants.** Did you know that we have a new mailing coordinator? Charlotte Mitich has been organizing our mailing parties this past spring. Regular participants include Bill McCoy, Kate Mawdsley, Ellen and/or Jean, Cecilia Kwan, and Roberta Stevenson. Charlotte could sometimes use a few more "reserve mailers"; if you are interested in an hour of fine conversation and some of Charlotte's delicious refreshments, please contact Charlotte at 758-2105. Mailing parties are usually held on-campus and participants usually have a parking permit or don't mind paying the hefty \$6.00 fee. If the fee is a problem for you, we can figure out alternatives. Our membership renewal mailing in the fall especially needs a larger group of volunteers.

4) **Herbarium specimen mounters.** This isn't a Davis Botanical Society position; it is a Herbarium volunteer opportunity. "Mounting" is the process of gluing our plant specimens and associated label, etc., to paper. After we move to the new building this fall, we will organize a volunteer mounting group. We could have mounting parties one evening a month or one Saturday a month. We could even meet during the week, if we could find an off-campus location. On Saturdays, parking is free on campus, which is an advantage. However Ellen tends to be overcommitted on Saturdays during the academic year. If the idea of a mounting party interests you, please contact Ellen and let her know what time of the week/month works for you and whether you would prefer to work on or off campus. Who knows? Maybe the Senior Center would allow us to use their facility.

## SOCIETY PROFILES

### Dan Potter

We are fortunate to have Dan Potter as our Botanical Society President for the 2004-2005 membership year. Dan is currently the instructor for both California Floristics and Ethnobotany at UCD. Since his arrival in 1996, he has had a number of taxonomy/ethnobotany graduate students who have used the herbarium extensively. He is a strong supporter of the herbarium and the conservatory.

Dan grew up in upstate New York near the town of Poughkeepsie. He credits his interest in biology to growing up in the country and having excellent science teachers in high school. However, his interest in botany didn't really take root until his college years at Harvard where he was taught by such prominent botanists as Carroll Wood (botany and taxonomy) and Richard Evans Schultes (ethnobotany). His first research experience was with Martin Zimmerman, then dendrologist at the Harvard Forest.

By the time he received his bachelor's degree, Dan knew he was interested in plant diversity. This interest led to his participation in a World Wildlife Fund project in Brazil (looking at species loss in forest fragments) and then to graduate school at Cornell University. His dissertation project at Cornell (under the tutelage of Jeff Doyle) was on the African Yam Bean (*Sphenostylis*). His project focused on discerning the origins of the different cultivated varieties of *Sphenostylis* (a genus with nine species). He traveled in eight African countries, collecting plants and talking with people about their usage of the species.

After receiving his Ph.D., Dan traveled to the Seychelles Islands near Madagascar, where he spent nine months monitoring populations of plants and animals. This was followed by a post-doctoral position where he used molecular techniques to classify species of nano-plankton algae.

A member of the Dept. of Pomology at UCD, Dan's research has focused on the Rosaceae (rose family) as well as walnut. He and his students have worked on the evolution of strawberry, ninebark (*Physocarpus*), and plums and other stone fruits (*Prunus*). He has also collaborated with several other researchers to construct a multi-gene phylogeny and new tribal classification of the rose family as a whole. One of his current projects is a study of nitrogen-fixing members of the rose family. (Many people don't realize that some members of this family have nitrogen-fixing bacteria in their roots.) Two of his recent graduate students have focused on studies of the ethnobotanical knowledge of the Maasai of Tanzania and the Tado of Indonesia—both projects which were awarded Davis Botanical Society student grants.

Welcome, Dan!

E. Dean



Dan Potter

E. Dean

## RECENT GIFTS

### Davis Botanical Society Student Grant Fund

Peter Stakel

### Larry Mitich Memorial Student Grant Fund

James & Catherine Murray

### Jack Major Memorial Student Grant Fund

Helen Hunt Carpenter  
Mary Cecil Major  
Katherine & Gerald West

### Herbarium Endowment

Nancy & Donald Crosby  
G. Frederic Hrusa  
Ramona A Robison  
Kay Kaiser-Reyes

### McCaskill Memorial Fund In Memory of Sterling Leisz

Cecilia Kwan  
Bruce Leisz  
Roberta Stevenson  
Gail Sullivan

### June McCaskill Memorial Fund

Lars Anderson  
Eleanor M. Buehler  
M. Dale Christensen  
Gladys & Edward Cosens  
Gerald L. Dickinson  
William & Alex Dougherty  
Ray & Mary Margaret Evert  
Bill & Jane Fischer  
Brenda K. Grant  
Louis & Georgette Grivetti  
Charlotte Kimball  
Jack & Ellie Maze  
Tim Metcalf  
Calvin Qualset  
Jean & Scott Shepard  
Roberta Stevenson  
Gail Sullivan  
Katherine & Gerald West

### Herbarium Building Campaign

Robert Avalos  
Nanci Gale Bristowe  
Peter L. Chesson  
Cheryl & Michael Coats  
Sandra & William Haley  
Bo Liu  
Tom Mezzanares  
Donna W. Olsson  
Ernesto Sandoval  
Phyllis M. Wise  
Anonymous

### Herbarium Operations Gifts

William McCoy

### Gifts of Books or Slides

Grady L. Webster  
Wesley Youngclaus  
Estate of Beecher Crampton

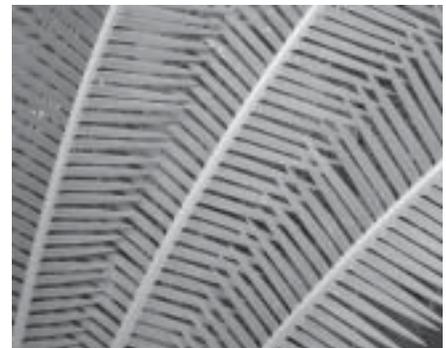
Thank you for your support!

## BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY RECEIVES SLOSSON GRANT, SEEKS DONATIONS, FOR NEW GARDENS

The Botanical Conservatory has just received a \$17,000 grant from the Elvina J. Slosson Horticultural Fund for the labeling of drought tolerant plantings around the new Sciences Laboratory Building (SLB), scheduled for occupancy beginning Winter Quarter 2005. The grant will help cover the major costs for labeling and interpretive signage of several hundred drought tolerant plants, such as cycads, succulents and southwestern natives. As part of this project, several interpretive signs emphasizing the biology and horticultural potential of plants such as cycads, cacti, aloes and Euphorbias will also be installed. In addition, a part-time interpretive project manager to coordinate the design and installation will be funded through the grant. As part of these plantings, the south side of Storer Hall has received a botanical face-lift with mixed plantings of educationally valuable

plants with hardy cycads as the central focus. Conservatory staff would like to establish these cycad plantings in honor of Dr. Ernest Gifford (emeritus), who spent many years studying these plants. A portion of the cycad garden is complete but more work is needed, including the transplanting of cycads and specimen palms from the former Botany building (Robbins Hall), the installation of an improved irrigation system, paving within the planting beds and the establishment of an endowment for the maintenance of the cycad gardens.

With a commitment to the continued use of live plants in the Biological Sciences curriculum, the Botanical Conservatory has taken on a greater role in the landscaping around the Biological Sciences buildings such as Storer Hall and the Sciences Laboratory Building. If you are interested in funding the labeling of the educationally valuable plantings



Dioon edule and other cycads will be part of a cycad garden on the south side of Storer Hall. Photo Ernesto Sandoval

beyond the scope of the Slosson grant, helping to fund the cycad garden, or helping to establish an endowment for these plantings, please contact Ernesto Sandoval at 530-752-0569 or by e-mail at [jesandoval@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jesandoval@ucdavis.edu).

*E. Sandoval*

## A MYSTERIOUS *DROSERA* IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

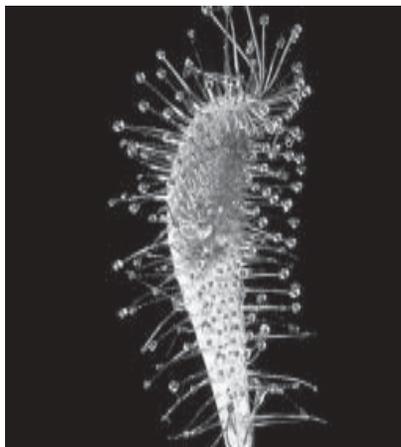
(Ed. Note: *Lasthenia* readers and visitors to the Conservatory or its plant sales will recall that DBS Past President Rice is a connoisseur of carnivores.)

My lovely wife and I spent the weekend of August 14-15 carefully examining the carnivorous flora of a well known site which I will not name, for the present. The *Darlingtonia californica* (cobra lilies), *Utricularia minor* (small bladderwort), and *Drosera rotundifolia* (round-leafed sundew) were all in excellent shape. (*Utricularia macrorhiza*, reported for the area, eluded us.)

*Drosera anglica* is also reported to occur at this site, and I suppose I found the plants this report corresponds to. However, I was astonished by them. This population of plants, only about 1 m<sup>2</sup> in extent, consists of individuals so abnormal that their form falls well outside the limits of the description for *Drosera anglica*. In fact, the closest thing in the entire sundew family this plant resembles is *Drosera linearis*, a plant restricted to North America's Great Lakes region, and a few sites in Maine west towards Newfoundland. However, the inflorescences of the plants on this site are much too tall to be consistent with *Drosera linearis*. The plants also bear some similarity to *Drosera* × *hybrida*, a sterile hybrid of the eastern seaboard. However, the plants we saw are too large to be this

hybrid, and furthermore are producing seed.

To gain some perspective on these plants, I spent a few days measuring herbarium specimens at the UC Davis Herbarium, and also examining live



A normal leaf of *Drosera anglica*.  
Photo Barry Rice.

*Drosera anglica* plants at the Botanical Conservatory. The measurements I took verified my initial impressions. For example, consider the contrast between the leaf measurements I took of specimens of conventional *Drosera anglica* and the mysterious plants. The ratio of leaf-blade length to leaf-blade width for typical plants is approximately 2.7-5.7 (for the newly found plants, the ratio is about 54!); the ratio of leaf blade width to petiole width is typically 3-6 (for the strange plants, the ratio is about 1.5); finally

the ratio of the leaf petiole length to the leaf blade length is typically 1.5-3.3 (for the new plants, the ratio is about 0.4). All these measurements of the plants we saw were taken, of course, from large and healthy leaves on plants that were growing in full sun, and in conditions that in general should result in fine, healthy growth.

The seeds of all North American fertile *Drosera* are so distinct they can be used to identify the plants to species level. But the seeds of the mysterious plants simply add another layer of confusion to this situation. They are not quite consistent with the seeds of *Drosera anglica*, but instead are intermediate between *D. anglica* and *D. linearis*.

What the devil are these plants? I am at a loss for an explanation! Are they non-native introductions? I do not think so, because there is no sundew species (anywhere!) that looks like these plants! Dare I say new species? I am too cautious to be so bold.... We will return to the site within a few weeks to learn more about the plants and take more measurements. However it works out, it is astonishing to realize that you can make such surprising finds even in places as heavily studied as this site!

A final thought: Isn't it a pleasure to have a functioning Herbarium and Botanical Conservatory where necessary research resources are so readily available?

B. Rice

## LAST PICNIC DAY IN ROBBINS HALL (CONT FROM PG 1)

display – even though no one at Davis studied orchids.

Over the years, the Herbarium honed the display down to just California plants – both native and naturalized. This past April's display had plants from local wetlands, vernal pools, and the mountains on both sides of the valley. Most of the plants were collected by Sue Nichol, our plant collector for such classes as Plant Taxonomy, California Floristics, and Plant Morphology, with a few extra plants collected by Jean and myself. Sue did a



Dr. Judy Jernstedt, a regular visitor to the wildflower exhibit

wonderful job, and many people commented that this was the best show they had ever seen. Many alumni come back year after year to see what we have at the display, and it is a great time to catch up with students and their parents.

Like wildflowers themselves, pictures can't fully convey the event, but we hope you enjoy these candid shots anyway.

E. Dean

## TAXONOMIC RESEARCH WITH REAL WORLD APPLICATIONS DISTINGUISHES 2004-05 STUDENT GRANTS

Three very different projects studying plants in quite different and, in two cases, distant locales will benefit from the Davis Botanical Society's \$750 Student Research Grants in 2004-05.

Eric Wada, in the Plant Biology Graduate Group, will use the Eric Grissell Award in his study of relationships and diversity among *Vitis* (grape) species in the southwestern U.S. These species are naturally pest resistant; rootstocks from the non-cultivated relatives of wine and table grapes have obvious great potential economic importance. Wada will travel to sample southwestern wild grape populations, emphasizing *Vitis arizonica*. He is working with Andrew Walker in Viticulture & Enology and Dan Potter in Pomology.

Tracy Erwin's project takes her (back) to Hawaii, where she will study the effects of habitat fragmentation on pollination of endangered native trees in the dry forests of Maui. With the aid of the Larry Mitich Award, she will use 25 individuals of *Zanthoxylum hawaiiense* to study the impact of low population



*Lupinus nanus*

density and isolation on the per capita reproduction rate. There are clear restoration implications of failed reproduction in rare plants. Erwin is

working with Truman Young in Environmental Horticulture.

Karen Moore's research site, in contrast, is a UC Davis natural reserve, the McLaughlin Reserve in Napa and Lake Counties. There she will investigate the patchy spatial distribution of *Lupinus nanus*, the familiar Dwarf Lupine, to try to identify factors and conditions that determine the plant's highly patterned niche, or actual growth sites, in its native California grassland. She will consider the role of inadequate seed supply as well as abiotic and biotic conditions in a study that has implications for improving the ecological basis for restoration of native grasslands. The Jack Major Award will assist Moore, who is a student of Susan Harrison in the Ecology Graduate Group.

Basic research with potential real-world application—no wonder our members and friends have made the Student Grants one of their favorite gift designations! And the students (and the Board) thank you all.

K. Mawdsley

## STUDENT GRANT REPORTS HIGHLIGHT ANNUAL MEETING

The Society's necessary business was conducted expeditiously at the annual meeting in May, to give student researchers maximum time to report to DBS members and guests on their projects.

Society President Les Gottlieb summarized the year's activities and reported a new record of 216 current members. The Conservatory Endowment has been established and will become an important, secure source of additional funds in future times of financial difficulty. New Officers and Board members were elected by acclamation and are listed on the back cover of this issue. President Gottlieb thanked retiring Treasurer Emily Griswold and Member at Large Rosa Scherson for their service.

And then three enthusiastic young scholars delighted their

audience with illustrated reports of their research. Jennifer Buck, Grissell Award recipient in 2003, flashed glorious images of the diversity of vernal pools with their different suites of flowers as she explained the multi-year project classifying California vernal pools of which her Master's thesis with Michael Barbour was a part.

Elizabeth Leger reported on her comparative study of California poppy in Chile, where it is invasive, and here in its native state. Using seed collected from a series of sites in both locations, she conducted a common garden experiment to test whether the nonnative poppies had increased in size and seed producing ability. Her doctoral research under Kevin Rice's supervision was sponsored in part by a DBS Award in 2001.

Finally Kathren Murrell Stevenson, a Barbour PhD. student, reported on her

research in eastern Sierra Nevada meadows with the 2003 Jack Major Award. Showing images that reminded us why high mountain meadows are a favorite summer refuge, she summarized analysis that indicated that total diversity of species was greater in dryer meadows, but native species occurred more frequently in wetter areas. One implication: overgrazed meadows or those with disturbed hydrology won't recover without active management.

Eager discussion continued through the refreshments which followed the program. We are pleased that the student presentations were so well received and look forward to future programs to share the results of work undertaken with DBS Student Research grants.

K. Mawdsley

## PROTECTING CRAMPTON'S TUCTORIA - PROGRESS REPORT

As you know from previous issues of *Lasthenia*, Herbarium staff and DBS volunteers have had an ongoing interest in the status of Crampton's Tuctoria (the grass in our logo) at a local park south of Davis called Yolo County Grasslands Park. This park has one of two known populations of this rare vernal pool grass, which was discovered and described by Beecher Crampton in the 1950s.

In order to aid Yolo County with its management of the grass and other vernal pool plants at the park, we organized two field days. On February 8 we mapped previously unrecorded wetland areas, and on March 28 we returned to make a list of wetland species growing in those pools.

This work was organized by Jean Shepard, who has been working on a flora of the park, and led by two wonderful Davis Botanical Society members – Ron and Petra Unger. Ron and Petra work for EDAW Inc., a consulting firm, and they donated their time and GPS equipment on both Sundays. We couldn't have tackled this project without their expertise. Thank you, Ron and Petra!

The wetland areas of the park, home to many vernal pool species, are now understood to a greater extent



The Yolo County Grasslands Vernal Pool Crew on February 8. Top row from left: Mark Unger, Ron Unger, Mark Bibbo, Elizabeth Salvia, Jennifer Buck, Barry Rice, Elizabeth Cruz, Jean Shepard, Petra Unger, Alex Unger; bottom row: Misa Ward and Kate Mawdsley. Not pictured: photographer Ellen Dean.

and will be managed appropriately. In May, the county performed a controlled burn to rid the weediest wetland areas of several noxious weeds. We look forward to seeing the results in the spring of 2005.

The photo shows the great group we had helping us on February 8. A big thank you to our volunteers.

*E. Dean*

## DIRECTORS' CORNER (CONT FROM PG 2)

Joytika Chand, Savanne Hok, and Nancy Trejo, and our wonderful curatorial volunteers Kate Mawdsley and Denny Nolet have worked hard toward three goals directly related to our rapidly approaching move: 1) refolding the collections so that every folder has a "hanging tag" that we can see easily; 2) going through our uncurated collection backlog and either labeling the collections or discarding them; 3) going through our decades of "stuff" and throwing things out!

As a result of this work we have labeled unprecedented numbers of older collections, including those of Jack Major (lichens and mosses from alpine areas), Rod Myatt (Sierra

Nevada vascular plants), and oaks (both California collections from Bob Myatt and Batat's specimens from Turkey). It is gratifying to see these collections finally mounted and incorporated into our collections.

At the same time, we are receiving wonderful new collections! These include donations from Geri Hulse-Stevens (Goat Mountain in Humboldt County), Carol Witham (wetland plants from Glide Ranch, the new addition to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area), Ayzik Solomeshch (grassland plants from local areas of the Central Valley), Ingrid Hogle (Cosumnes River Preserve), Grady Webster (more collections from his yearly trips to Baja California, Ecuador, and Texas), Robert

Preston (vernal pool and other plants, mainly from the Central Valley), and yours truly (an eclectic collection from all parts of California).

We are doing all of this curatorial work under the pressure of budget cuts. In 2004-05, we will be operating on half of our previous budget for hiring undergraduates and ordering supplies. We are making up the difference with grant money at the moment, but I hope there may come a day when our Herbarium endowment will generate real curatorial support. Stay tuned for an endowment fundraiser!

*E. Dean*