

The Nineteenth Annual

Spring Outing

Botanical Excursion

Foray, Retreat, and Escape to the Environment

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SoBeFree 19 !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Friday to Monday, March 28-31, 2014

Santa Cruz Mountains near Boulder Creek

Coordinator: Ken Kellman

Founded in 1996, SO BE FREE is a series of West Coast forays started by the Bryolab at UC Berkeley, but open to all botanists. The main focus is on bryophytes, but we also encourage experts on other groups to come along and smell the liverworts. We welcome specialists and generalists, professionals and amateurs, master bryologists and rank beginners. SO BE FREE is held each spring, somewhere in the Western US, associated with spring break at universities. Evening slide shows and informal talks are presented as well as keying sessions with microscopes. In addition to seeing interesting wild areas and learning new plants, important goals for SO BE FREE include keeping West Coast bryologists (and friends) in touch with each other and teaching beginners. To see pictures and information from past outings, visit the SO BE FREE website at: http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/bryolab/Field_Trips.html

The 2014 SO BE FREE will be held in the Santa Cruz Mountains approximately 1.5 hour south of San Francisco. To date, 202 species of mosses, 51 liverworts, and 4 hornworts have been found in Santa Cruz County, with several more just outside the county lines. The county is rich in limestone and marble, as well as marine sandstone deposits, supporting a number of rare endemic bryophytes. Participants may see coastal prairie, coast redwood forest, live oak forest, and chaparral scrub, depending on the field trips chosen. More information on the bryophytes of Santa Cruz County can be found at www.bryolog.com

Beginners are very welcome to SO BE FREE, and we will have field trips to satisfy all participants from neophyte to nerd! Field trip details are to follow. I am working on access to areas recently acquired by the Santa Cruz Land Trust which I was not able to enter when I was working on the moss catalog.

We will be based at **YMCA Camp Campbell**, 5 minutes north of Boulder Creek, 16275 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, CA 95006. It is about 1 ½ hours from San Francisco airport, and ¾ hour from San Jose airport. Go to www.ymcasv.org/ymcacampcampbell/ to see details of the facility.

Food and Lodging

Lodging at Camp Campbell is in bunkhouse style cabins. Each cabin holds 12 occupants. Bathrooms and showers are in a separate building. Linens are available at a slight extra cost. If bunk beds are not acceptable, you can spend the night at motels nearby. There is a list of local hotels and B&B's at the end of this announcement. Participants not staying at Camp Campbell need to arrange their own lodging. No camping is allowed on site. The closest campground is at Big Basin State Park which is about 20 minutes away. Go to www.bigbasin.org/camping.html for reservations.

Meals will begin with Friday dinner, and continue until breakfast on Monday morning. Box lunches will be assembled for each day's field trips. Meals are served buffet style.

Meetings and Field Trips

We will have presentations from students, and other people interested in sharing their work Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. We will also discuss the various field trip options then. There will be field trips most of the day Saturday and Sunday. Trips on Monday may be organized but will be informal. Lists of the known bryophytes of Santa Cruz County will be available. Enjoying and identifying the plants collected on the field trips will take up the rest of the time in the afternoons and evenings.

Registration

Registration will be coordinated by Ken Kellman. Please contact Ken with any questions. That will be best accomplished by email at kkellman@sbcglobal.net
Home phone is (831) 336-8548 (before 9 PM Pacific time please!)

Please fill in the attached registration form and return by mail with your check to:

Ken Kellman

9870 Brookside Ave.

Ben Lomond, CA 95005

I will confirm by email only so please remember to include your email address. **Camp Campbell will not accept direct reservations! Cabin reservations will be filled on a first come first served basis, so please register early!**

Check-in will begin Friday, March 28 at 2 PM. Cabin assignments will be given at that time. Microscope set up will be in the Sommers Lodge Building.

Weather is a wild card this time of year. The rainy season will be nearly, but not over. Plan on bringing appropriate rain gear.

SOBEFREE 19 MARCH 28-31, 2013
REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT FORM

Name (s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

People you would like to room with who are paying separately (otherwise roommates will be assigned) _____

Gender _____

Meal restrictions _____

Costs are per person, and include 8 meals, 3 nights, and meeting room use

Registration = \$180 per person # People _____ Total _____

Linen packet = \$ 20 per person # People _____ Total _____

Please check if you will be staying off site

Due to a large minimum fee required by Camp Campbell there is no discount for offsite lodging. If the minimum occupancy is met, I may be able to arrange a discount for those not staying at Camp Campbell.

Please make your check payable to Ken Kellman. Please write SoBeFree in the memo line and mail to:

Ken Kellman
9870 Brookside Ave.
Ben Lomond, CA 95005

Hotels & B&B's (arranged closest to Camp Campbell to farthest away)

MerryBrook Lodge
13420 Big Basin Way
Boulder Creek, Ca
(831) 338-6813

Hartman Inn (B&B)
13025 Pine Street
Boulder Creek, CA 95006
(831) 431-3933

10-15 minutes to Camp Campbell:

Fairview Manor (B&B)
245 Fairview Ave
Ben Lomond, CA 95005
(831) 336-3355

Quality Inn & Suites
9733 Hwy 9
Ben Lomond, CA 95005
(831) 336-2292
[caveat emptor! There were complaints of bed bugs here last summer. I am assured that they were exterminated...]

Jayes Timberlane Resort
8705 Highway 9
Ben Lomond, CA
(831) 336-5479

20 minutes to Camp Campbell:

Fern River Resort
5250 Highway 9
Felton, CA
(831) 335-4412

30 minutes to Camp Campbell:

Hilton Scotts Valley
6001 La Madrona Drive
Scotts Valley, CA
(855)271-3621

Best Western Scotts Valley
6020 Scotts Valley Drive
Scotts Valley, CA
(800) 568-8520