

12TH INTERNATIONAL CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY CONFERENCE

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I am beyond delighted to announce that the Bay Area Carnivorous Plant Society and California Carnivores will co-host the 2018 ICPS conference with help from the San Diego CPS and the Los Angeles CPS!

Please come join us August 3-5, 2018, in Santa Rosa, California, tucked in the heart of beautiful Sonoma County. This area is renowned for its lovely scenery, mild weather, and culinary excellence. It is against this backdrop that we hope to provide what will be a once in a lifetime carnivorous plant event!

This is truly the golden age of carnivorous plants and we hope to highlight that with almost 3 full days of lectures on the cutting edge of CP discovery, taxonomy, and cultivation. The conference will begin with an opening presentation from Peter D'Amato, author of "The Savage Garden" and founder of California Carnivores. Be sure and bring your books and get them autographed by Peter! The line-up of presenters is still being put together, but we already have some illustrious names confirmed including: Stewart McPherson, Fernando Rivadavia, Greg Bourke, Larry Mellichamp, Andreas Fleischmann, Naoki Tanabe, and Ulrike Bauer.

The BACPS will be running a special expanded two-day Show and Sale in conjunction with the conference. This includes a judged plant show full of beautifully grown plants from our members and vendors with lots of plants for sale. It is our goal to have as many actual plants on display as possible.

An academic poster event will be held for speakers and other scientists to present their work.

On Sunday, after the presentations wrap up, you will be shuttled a short drive to California Carnivores for a catered banquet dinner. Imagine dining amidst our internationally recognized carnivorous plant collection with other experts and enthusiasts from around the world.

Monday after the conference will be a free day for everyone. California Carnivores will be an open house for those who want to spend more time there, but San Francisco is only an hour away for those with family who might be sick of carnivores by then.

Field trips leave Tuesday morning, August 7, for *Darlingtonia* country! The cobra plant is one of the most charismatic and animalistic of all carnivorous plants and yet it has been seen by relatively few because of its far-flung range. They are definitely worth the four-hour drive North! For starters, you'll see the full diversity of color and forms that live in Del Norte Co., California. You'll see rocky cliffs with hundreds of *Pinguicula macroceras* subsp. *nortensis* clinging to them like tiny starfish. *Drosera rotundifolia* will be present at several sites as well. We plan to end our excursion with Eight Dollar Mountain in Southern Oregon; a spectacular site where *Darlingtonia* grow from the river up most of the mountain. You'll be in good company too with such illustrious travel companions including Barry Rice, Peter D'Amato, and myself.

I love these conferences because they are a rare opportunity to gather with people from all over the world who are passionate about my passion. I always leave with new friends and appreciation for the plants that I love so much. Please come and be a part of carnivorous plant history.

There will soon be a webpage for registration with more info. If you're interested in presenting or volunteering, please email info@californiacarnivores.com.