



PRESS RELEASE



From: Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History (PGMNH)
To: All Media
RE: 45th Annual Wildflower Show
PR Date: March 31, 2006. For immediate release.
Event Date/Time: April 14th, 15th & 16th (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday), 2006
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Contact: Paul Finnegan, (831) 648-5716, ext 12 or pfinnegan@ci.pg.ca.us

45th Annual Wildflower Show Files its Taxa at PGMNH



In collaboration with the Monterey Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History will offer the 45th Annual Wildflower Show on Friday April 14th, Saturday April 15th, and Sunday April 16th. A \$2.00 donation is requested at the door.

This annual event brings the bounty of Monterey's spring wildflowers to the public for easy and convenient viewing. Last year, a team of highly trained and

dedicated local CNPS members collected nearly 700 different species. These specialists fan out over the County, travelling over 1,200 miles in all to present what has grown into the largest show of its kind in the northern hemisphere. Monterey County owes its large variety of flora (75% of California's plant families are represented) to diverse habitats influenced by widely varying elevations, precipitation, soil types, and geology.

One of the key figures in the annual event from its inception in 1961 is PGMNH Director and Curator Emeritus Vern Yadon, whose dedication to local botany has resulted in the identification of numerous taxa, including several plants which bear his name (Menzies' Wildflower – Yadon's subspecies, Yadon's Horkelia, and Yadon's Rein-Orchid).

This year's Wildflower Show will be set against the backdrop of the ongoing exhibit, *Golden Poppies of California*, a collection of images by internationally acclaimed nature photographer George D. Lepp. This exhibit runs from March 18th through June 10th, 2006, and features Lepp's extraordinary Golden Poppy photographs from his award-winning book, *Golden Poppies of California*, which celebrates the spirit, beauty, and history of California's state flower.

For more information about the Wildflower Show, contact Museum Director Paul Finnegan at (831) 648-5716, ext. 12, or e-mail pfinnegan@ci.pg.ca.us

The Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History is located at Forest & Central avenues, and is open free to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. It will also be opened on Sunday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. during the Wildflower Show. Call (831) 648-5716 for Museum information, or pgmuseum@mbay.net / www.pgmuseum.org