

Invitation to all Lincoln Hills Photography Members Wildflowers – Yuba River Photography Field Trip

South Yuba River State Park's "Buttermilk
Bend" Wildflower Trail

Thursday, April 20, 2023 – 9 am to 3 pm

What: A field trip adventure to South Yuba River State Park for wildflowers. (Penn Valley area, east of Marysville.)
Hosted by Bill Kress and Les Thomas.

Why: Record rainfalls are providing special wildflower blooms. Last Wednesday's SIG (Special Interest Group) hosted by Kate McCarthy featured Bill Kress who presented his techniques for taking and processing images of wildflowers. Many of his images were from trips to the South Yuba River State Park.

Photography: The focus will be on the wildflowers, the raging river, and the large covered wooden bridge which we can walk through. Historic buildings and the Visitor Center building itself are not open until late May. As in Bill's presentation in the SIG, the flowers are small so a macro lens or telephoto lens is a first choice to be able to get the best compositions. Other lenses are also suitable. Smartphones are good as a second camera.

Who: Everyone from beginner to advanced. Members are welcome to bring guests on this trip.

When: Thursday, April 20, 2023. We plan to arrive at the State Park by 10:30 am for excellent light as many of the flowers are in tree-shaded areas. Those who have responded to our carpooling request, Drivers and Riders, will meet up to leave at 9 am in the OC Lodge parking area near the sports complex.

Plan on spending about three hours at the site. **The expected time of arrival back in Lincoln will be about 3 pm.** The drive each way will take about 90 minutes. Drivers and Riders need to set expectations with each other on times for travel to and from the state park. This must be done well in advance to avoid schedule conflicts.

You are free to do everything at your own pace and leave anytime you need to get back.

Carpooling: This trip is an opportunity for carpooling/ride-sharing experiences. The location is 62 miles from Lincoln Hills. Details to be announced.

Parking: Park at the Visitor Center parking lot next to the large historic barn and covered bridge. Buy a parking permit from the kiosk, credit card only, the fee is \$5, discounted to \$4 for seniors.

Walking: Yes, this is a walking/hiking field trip. The Buttermilk Bend trail is famous for wildflowers. This is a hiking trail. It is fairly level with some sections wheelchair accessible; .7 mile per signage. However, it is a hiking trail with elements of danger for tripping and falling so exercise caution. Wear appropriate safe footwear. The trail is 1.2 miles one way so just go as far as you think prudent. Parking is close to the trail. Refer to the map in our Trip Pack. The surface of the walking areas is dirt with some rock. Be mindful of your balance. There are benches for sitting along the trail. There is a Native Plants Garden at the Visitor Center which does not require any hiking and there are wildflowers

blooming next to the parking areas so hiking is not required to get access to many wildflowers.

Restrooms: Yes, there are restrooms open next to the Visitor Center where we will park. The restroom at the nearby Buttermilk Bend trailhead is locked and not available. See the map in our Trip Pack.

Food: Pack your lunch and beverage. There are many picnic tables for a delightful break.

Pre-Trip Information Meeting plus a Special Creative Concepts Presentation.

Steve Stewart will demonstrate creative concepts to encourage you to take great flower images and suggestions to help advance your skills to transform your images into art. This will include composition and post-processing tips. The Pre-trip meeting will also provide detailed information on this specific field trip including a Trip Pack with maps. It's an opportunity to exchange great ideas and sign up for carpooling.

Friday, April 14, 2023 is the date for this Pre-Trip Meeting.

It will start at 4 pm and end at about 5:30 pm.

The meeting will be at the home of Marilyn and Les Thomas, 1113 Overland Lane, near Kilaga Lodge. Call 916-543-0304 if lost or need directions.

Light snacks will be provided for this meeting, **this is not a potluck**, just bring a pen and paper to take notes.

Sign-up required: You need to sign up for this trip's pre-trip information meeting. We need to know how many people are going so we can print materials and arrange seating and refreshments for the pre-trip meeting.

Seats are limited. (You snooze, you lose.) We must limit the number of participants to the first 24 responses. This Pre-trip meeting will also include participants for another flower field trip to McKinley Rose Garden.

If you would like to attend this field trip, send a “Reply” to this email or a separate email to Les Thomas: 7thomas33@gmail.com.

1. Confirm your participation in this trip so we can save a Trip Pack for you, and
2. request to save a seat if you intend to be at the pre-trip meeting on Friday, April 14.

Include any questions or comments you may have.

Your planners for this trip are Bill Kress: 916-380-2058, wckress@gmail.com and **Les Thomas:** 916-698-7783, 7thomas33@gmail.com. Please contact us if you have any questions or need clarification.

“If not now, when will you enrich your life?”

After five months of record amounts of rain, we will have incredible “flower blooms” and one of nature’s greatest shows of beauty.

Take advantage and immerse yourself in this beautiful setting.